

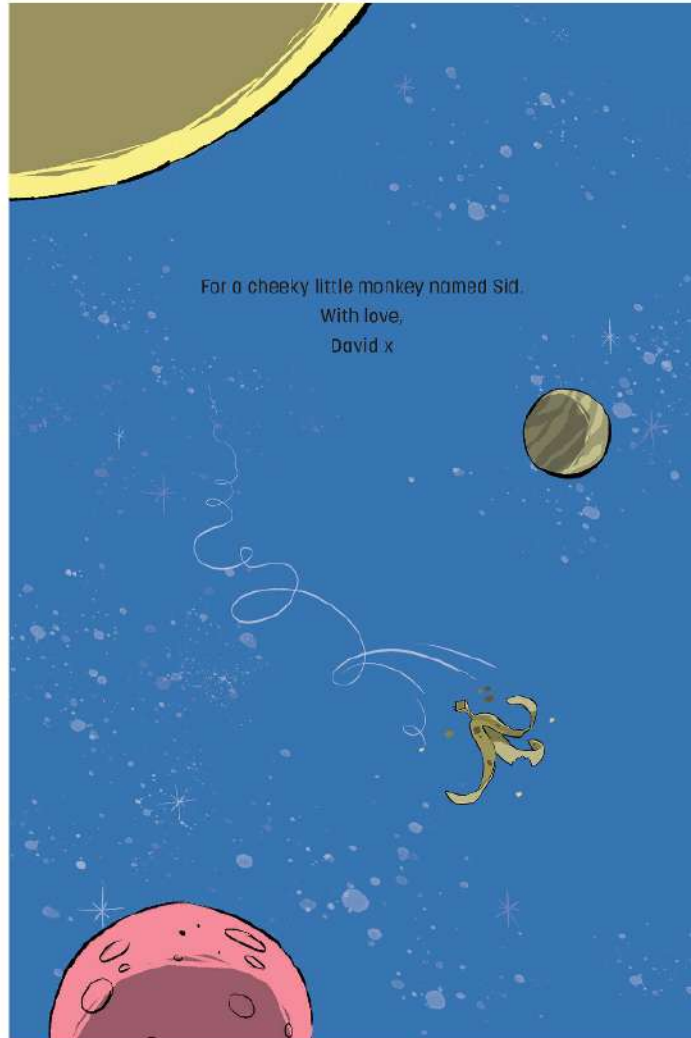
MULTI-MILLION BESTSELLING AUTHOR

David Walliams



# ASTRO CHIMP

ILLUSTRATED BY ADAM STOWER



## Table of Contents

[Cover](#)

[Title Page](#)

[EPISODE ONE](#)

[EPISODE TWO](#)

[EPISODE THREE](#)

[EPISODE FOUR](#)

[EPISODE FIVE](#)

[EPISODE SIX](#)

[EPISODE SEVEN](#)

[EPISODE EIGHT](#)

[EPISODE NINE](#)

[EPISODE TEN](#)

[EPISODE ELEVEN](#)

[EPISODE TWELVE](#)

[EPILOGUE](#)

[COPYRIGHT](#)

[BOOKS BY DAVID WALLIAMS](#)



SLIME

MEGAMONSTER

ROBODOG

THE WORLD'S WORST CHILDREN 1

THE WORLD'S WORST CHILDREN 2

THE WORLD'S WORST CHILDREN 3

THE WORLD'S WORST TEACHERS

THE WORLD'S WORST PARENTS

THE WORLD'S WORST PETS

THE WORLD'S WORST MONSTERS

THE SLIGHTLY ANNOYING ELEPHANT

THE FIRST HIPPO ON THE MOON

THE BEAR WHO WENT BOO!

THERE'S A SNAKE IN MY SCHOOL!

BOOGIE BEAR

GERONIMO

THE CREATURE CHOIR

LITTLE MONSTERS

MARMALADE: THE ORANGE PANDA

GRANNYSAURUS

LITTLE MONSTERS RULE!

*Books by David Williams:*

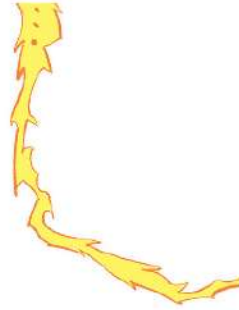
THE BOY IN THE DRESS  
 MR STINK  
 BILLIONAIRE BOY  
 GANGSTA GRANNY  
 RATBURGER  
 DEMON DENTIST  
 AWFUL AUNTIE  
 GRANDPA'S GREAT ESCAPE  
 THE MIDNIGHT GANG  
 BAD DAD  
 THE ICE MONSTER  
 THE BEAST OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE  
 CODE NAME BANANAS  
 GANGSTA GRANNY STRIKES AGAIN!  
 SPACEBOY  
 THE BLUNDERS  
 ASTROCHIMP

FING  
 SLIME  
 MEGAMONSTER  
 ROBODOG

THE WORLD'S WORST CHILDREN 1  
 THE WORLD'S WORST CHILDREN 2  
 THE WORLD'S WORST CHILDREN 3  
 THE WORLD'S WORST TEACHERS  
 THE WORLD'S WORST PARENTS  
 THE WORLD'S WORST PETS  
 THE WORLD'S WORST MONSTERS

*Also available in picture book:*

THE SLIGHTLY ANNOYING ELEPHANT  
 THE FIRST HIPPO ON THE MOON  
 THE BEAR WHO WENT BOO!  
 THERE'S A SNAKE IN MY SCHOOL!  
 BOOGIE BEAR  
 GERONIMO  
 THE CREATURE CHOR  
 LITTLE MONSTERS  
 MARMALADE: THE ORANGE PANDA  
 GRANNYSAURUS  
 LITTLE MONSTERS RULE!



THE BOY IN THE DRESS

MR STINK

BILLIONAIRE BOY

GANGSTA GRANNY

RATBURGER

DEMON DENTIST

AWFUL AUNTIE

GRANDPA'S GREAT ESCAPE

THE MIDNIGHT GANG

BAD DAD

THE ICE MONSTER

THE BEAST OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE

CODE NAME BANANAS

GANGSTA GRANNY STRIKES AGAIN!

SPACEBOY

THE BLUNDERS

ASTROCHIMP

FING



from the British Library

Screenshot saved  
Tap to view your screenshot



SHARE EDIT DELETE

9780008649647

Version: 2024-05-17

All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. By payment of the required fees, you have been granted the non-exclusive, non-transferable right to access and read the text of this ebook onscreen. No part of this text may be reproduced, transmitted, downloaded, decompiled, reverse engineered, or stored in or introduced into any information storage and retrieval system, in any form or by any means, whether electronic or mechanical, now known or hereinafter invented, without the express written permission of HarperCollins.

Source ISBN: 9780008649555

Ebook Edition © May 2024 ISBN:

from the British Library.

9780008649647

Version: 2024-05-17

All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. By payment of the required fees, you have been granted the non-exclusive, non-transferable right to access and read the text of this ebook onscreen. No part of this text may be reproduced, transmitted, downloaded, decompiled, reverse engineered, or stored in or introduced into any information storage and retrieval system, in any form or by any means, whether electronic or mechanical, now known or hereinafter invented, without the express written permission of HarperCollins.

Source ISBN: 9780008649555

Ebook Edition © May 2024 ISBN:





from the British Library.

9780008649647

Version: 2024-05-17

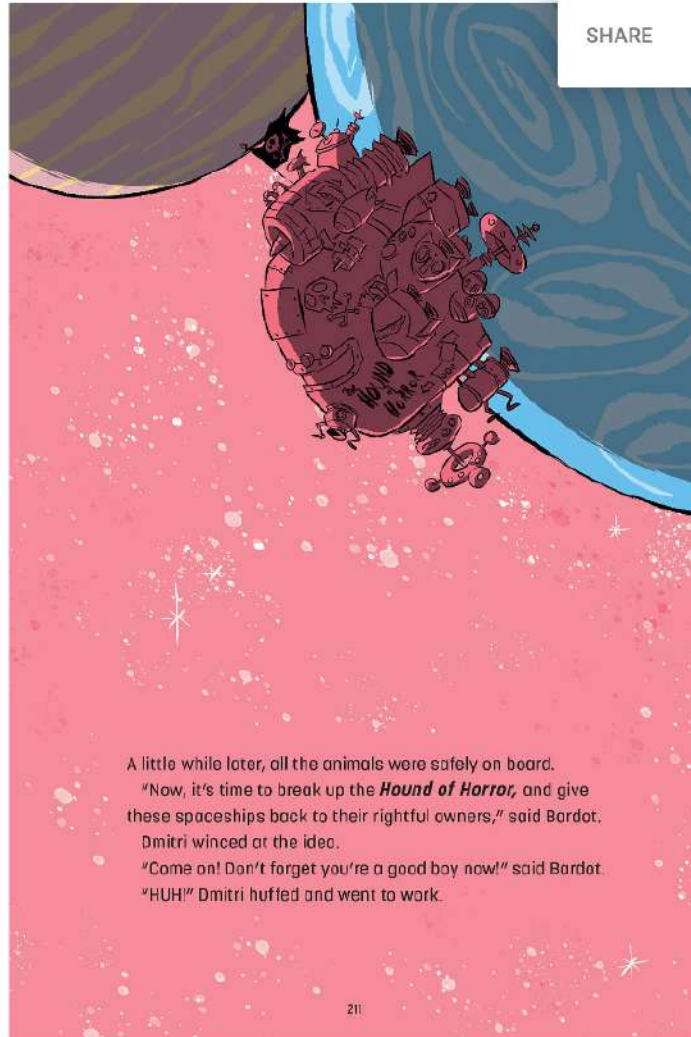
All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. By payment of the required fees, you have been granted the non-exclusive, non-transferable right to access and read the text of this ebook onscreen. No part of this text may be reproduced, transmitted, downloaded, decompiled, reverse engineered, or stored in or introduced into any information storage and retrieval system, in any form or by any means, whether electronic or mechanical, now known or hereinafter invented, without the express written permission of HarperCollins.

Source ISBN: 9780008649555

Ebook Edition © May 2024 ISBN:

Screenshot saved  
Tap to view your screenshot

SHARE EDIT DELETE





First published in the United Kingdom by  
 HarperCollins *Children's Books* in 2024  
 Published in this ebook edition in 2024  
 HarperCollins *Children's Books* is a division of  
 HarperCollins *Publishers* Ltd  
 1 London Bridge Street  
 London SE1 9GF

[www.harpercollins.co.uk](http://www.harpercollins.co.uk)

HarperCollins *Publishers*  
 Macken House, 39/40 Mayor Street Upper  
 Dublin 1, D01 C9W8, Ireland

Text copyright © David Walliams 2024  
 Cover and text illustrations copyright © Adam  
 Stower 2024  
 Cover lettering of author's name copyright ©

Quentin Blake 2010  
 Cover design copyright © HarperCollins *Publishers* Ltd 2024  
 All rights reserved

David Walliams and Adam Stower assert the  
 moral right to be identified as the author and  
 illustrator of the work respectively.

This is a work of fiction. Names, characters,  
 businesses, places, events, locales and incidents  
 are either the products of the author's  
 imagination or used in a fictitious manner.  
 Apart from famous historical figures, any  
 resemblance to actual persons, living or dead,  
 or actual events is purely coincidental.

A catalogue record for this book is available

## ANIMALS IN SPACE

the real animals that were blasted into space.



France really did send a **cat** into space. In 1963, Félicette was sent up in a Véronique rocket. She survived her flight and has been honoured with a bronze statue in France, so she will never be forgotten.



Argentina joined the space race in 1967 by launching a **rat** named Belisario into space on a Yarárá rocket.



Russia sent up two **tortoises** on **Zond 5** in 1968. They became the first animals to be blasted into deep space and circle the moon.



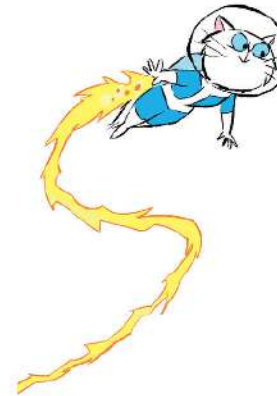
Cross **spiders** named Anita and Arabella followed, joining astronauts on the US rocket **Skylab 3** in 1973.



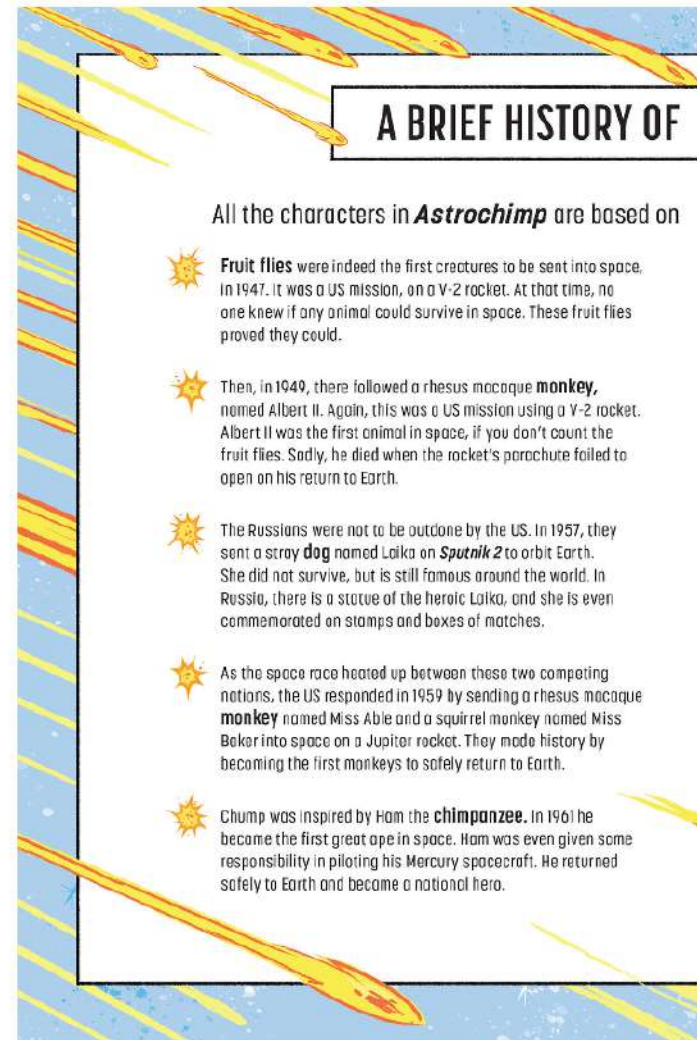
And in case you were thinking that **gerbils** were never blasted into space, they were! Russia sent them up in 2007! Their mission was to see if humans could survive a trip to Mars. One day, we might even see gerbils living on Mars.



*Actually, that's a cool idea for a story...*

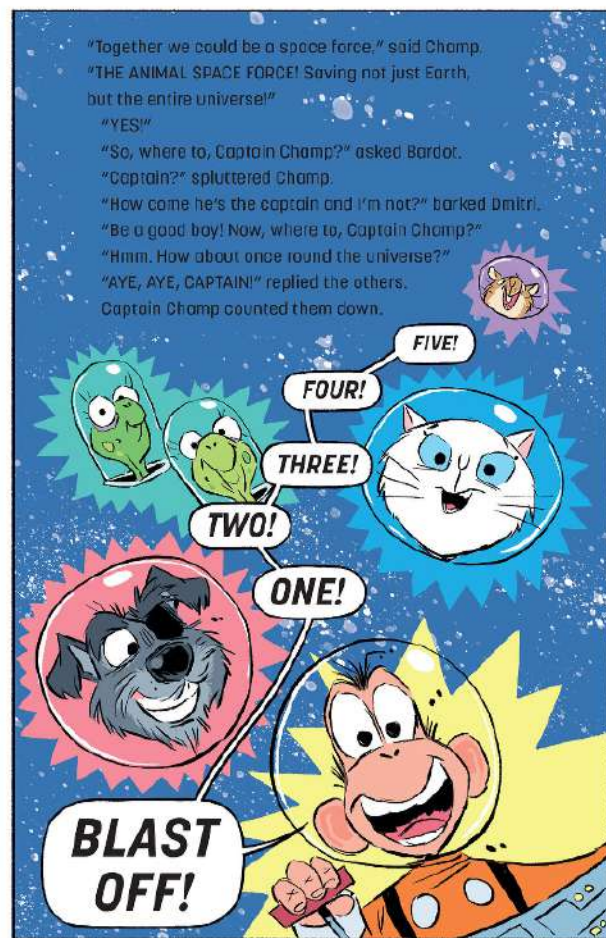












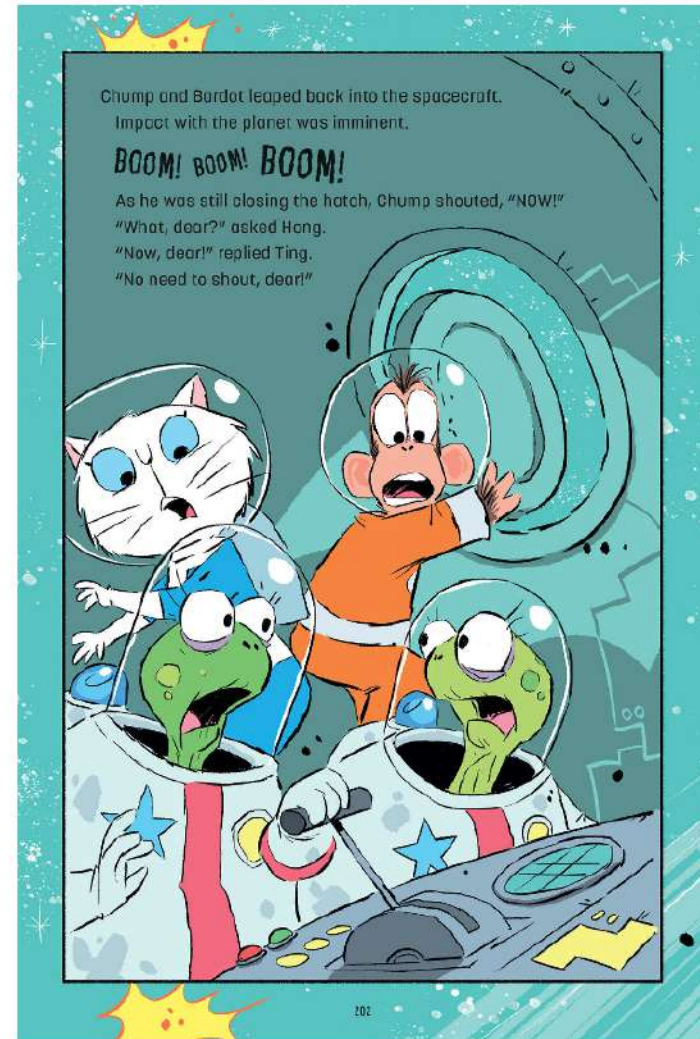


213

"WOW!" exclaimed Champ. "Thank you!"  
 "You don't have to thank me," replied Bardot. "We all must thank you, Champ, for saving Earth!"  
 With that, all the other creatures gave Champ a cheer.





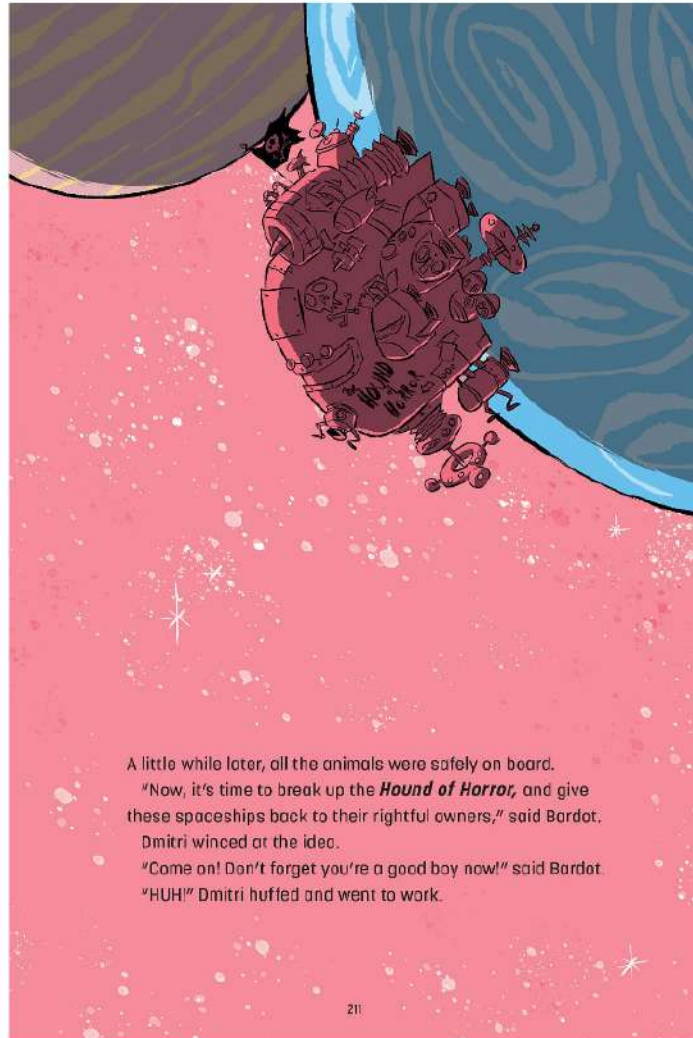












## EPISODE TWELVE

**THIS WAS THE DEADLIEST MISSION OF ALL!  
TO SEND A GIANT GERBIL BACK UP  
A BLACK HOLE!**

- ONE!** The gang took Choti by surprise and grabbed hold of her tail.  
**TWO!** They tied the end of her tail to the missile.  
**THREE!** Dmitri powered the missile through space.  
**FOUR!** They found the end of a black hole.  
**FIVE!** They leaped off the missile just in time.  
**SIX!** The missile pulled Choti into the black hole.  
**SEVEN!** The gang all held on to Bardot, who powered them through space.  
**EIGHT!** They reached the mouth of the black hole, keeping a safe distance so they would not be sucked in themselves.  
**NINE!** They waited. And waited some more.  
**TEN!** A minuscule missile shot out, towing a little gerbil.

EEK!

The gang zoomed over to catch hold of the gerbil and untied her tail from the missile.

"EEK?" squeaked little Choti.

"I speak Gerbil!" replied Bardot. "EEK! EEK! EEEK! EEK!"

"EEK!" agreed Choti.

"What did you tell her?" asked Dmitri.

"The whole story! Now, Chump, you keep Choti safe!"

The chimp cradled the gerbil in his hand, and placed her inside his spacesuit.

"Where to now?" asked Bardot.

"Let's find my ship!" said Dmitri.

"Our ships!"

"Sorry. Our ships!"

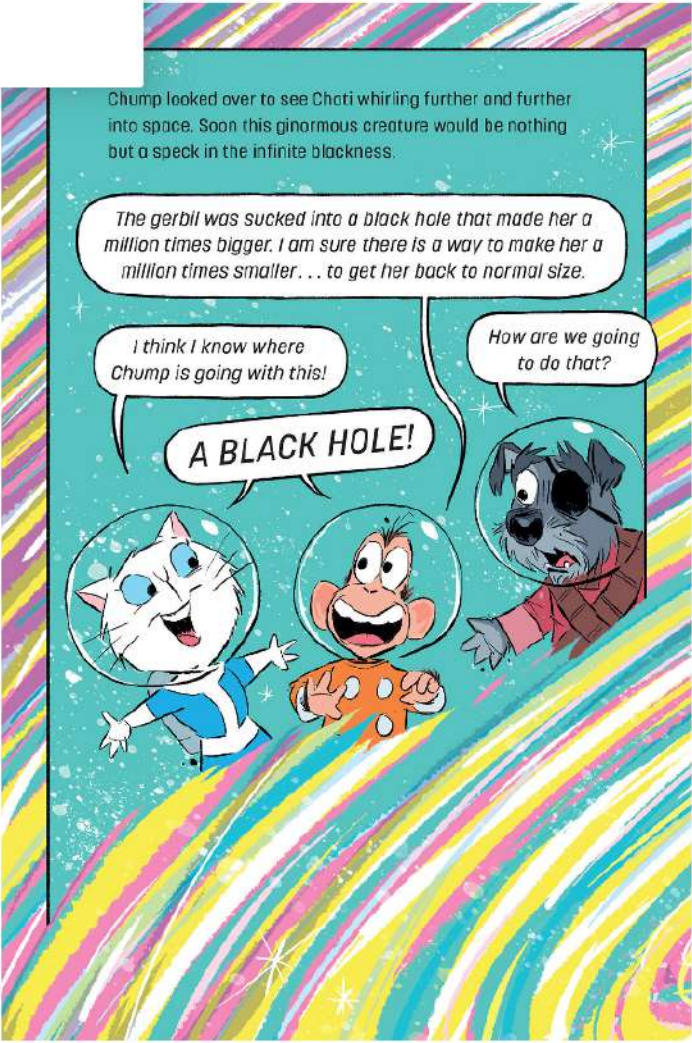
They zoomed off into space in search of the *Hound of Horror*.  
Just as Bardot's jetpack was about to run out of power...

THERE!



Screenshot saved  
Tap to view your screenshot

SHARE EDIT DELETE



Never upset a gerbil. Especially not a giant one. Gerbils may be cute and fluffy, but they BITE!

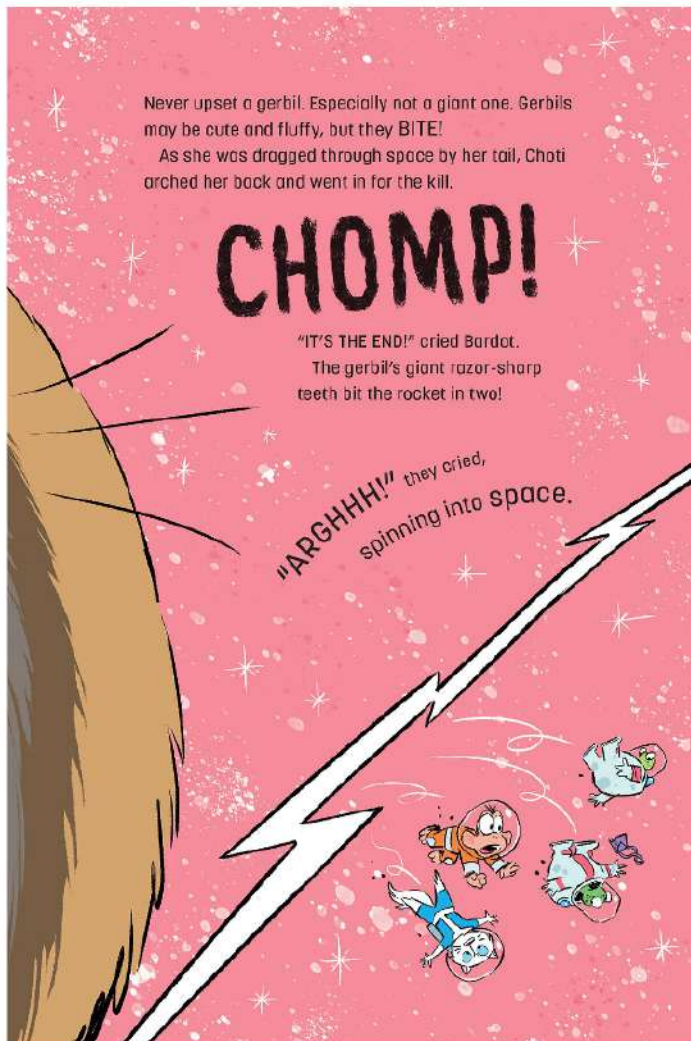
As she was dragged through space by her tail, Choti arched her back and went in for the kill.

# CHOMP!

"IT'S THE END!" cried Bardot.

The gerbil's giant razor-sharp teeth bit the rocket in two!

"ARGHHH!" they cried,  
spinning into space.



But who should come to the rescue, sitting astride a missile?

Dmitri! Flying the missile like a winged horse, controlling its every twist and turn.

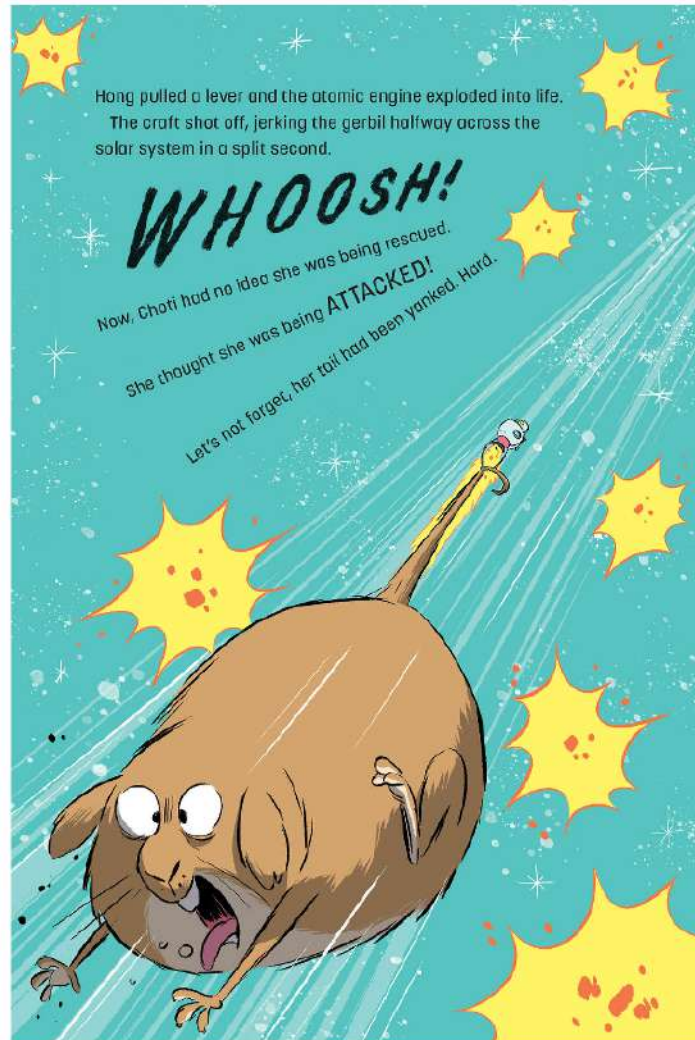
DO NOT FEAR! DMITRI  
IS HERE!



"How are you working that thing?" asked Bardot.

"Easy! I found this spanner!" said Dmitri, holding up the one Chump had dropped in space. "You will be glad to know the queen was shot across the solar system by a missile, which exploded on Pluto. She must have been blown into a billion bits! Now hop on."





Screenshot saved  
Tap to view your screenshot

SHARE EDIT DELETE



**BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!**

The explosions blasted our heroes off their feet, but still they surged forward, on their hunt for the creature's tail.

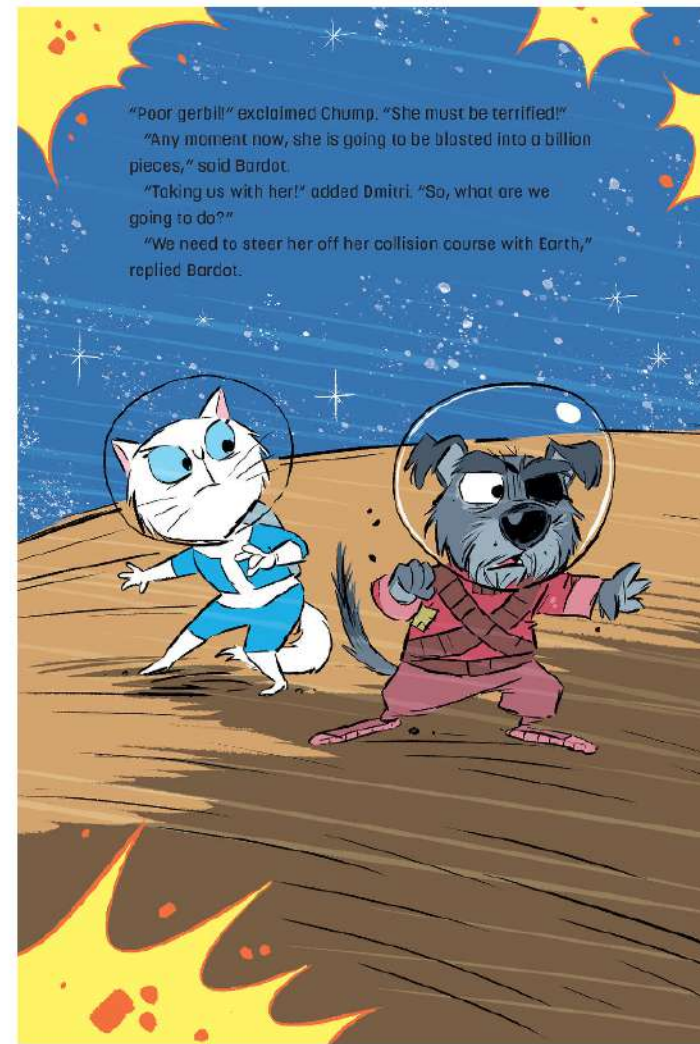
The giant gerbil was now dangerously close to Earth.



Only when Chump tripped over something, did he realise what it was!

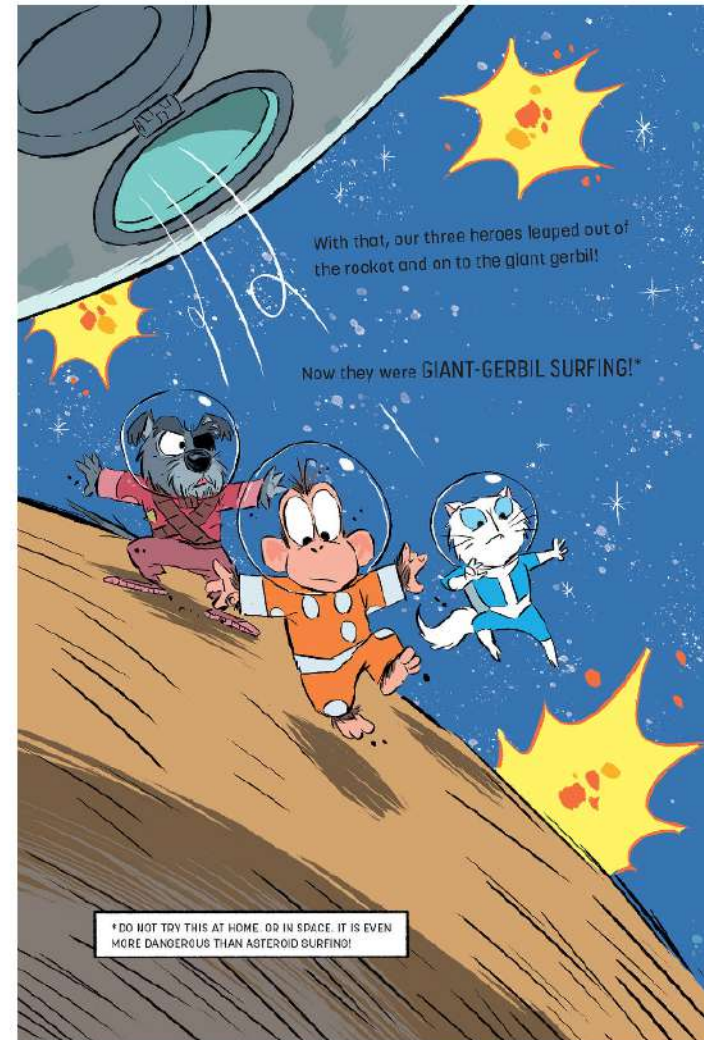








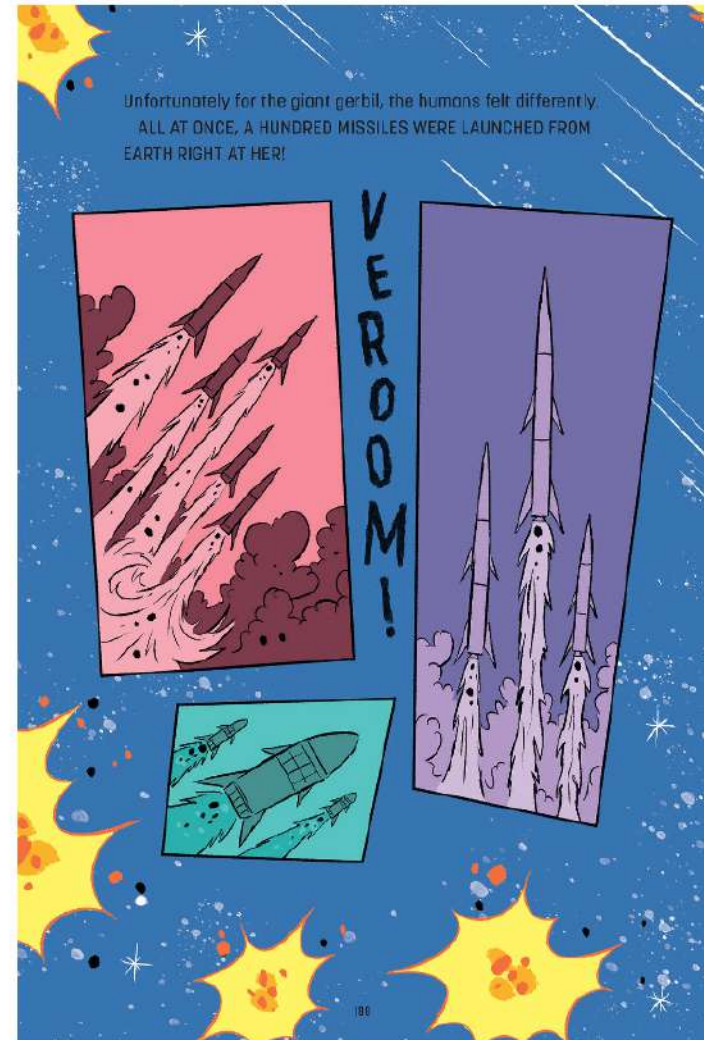
191

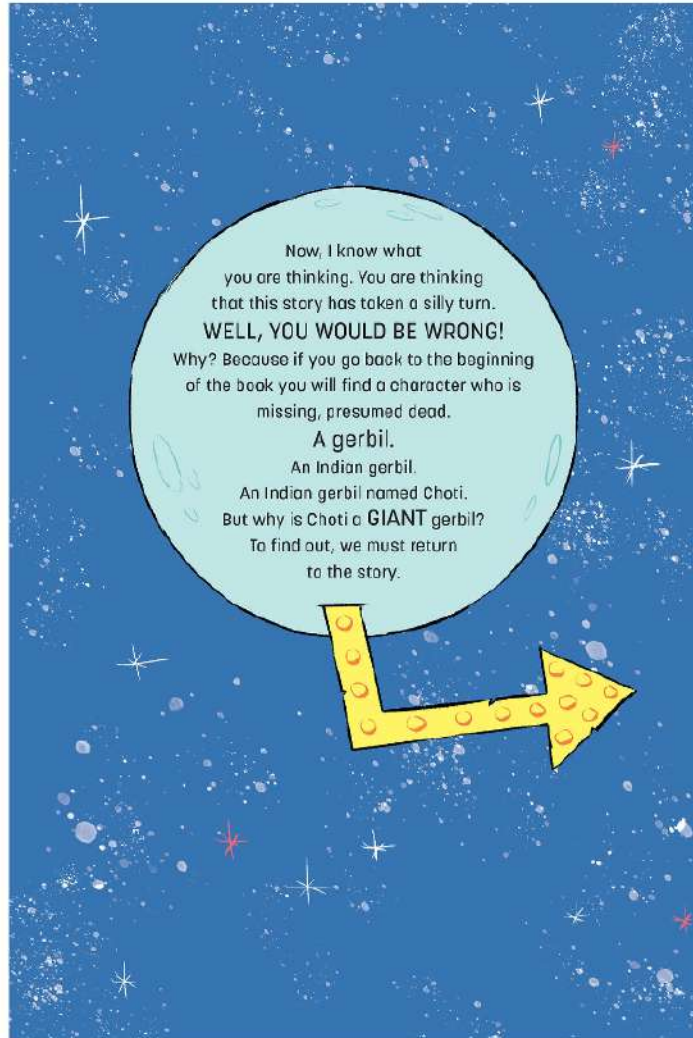












"That gerbil must have suffered the same fate as us fruit  
flies!" said the queen.

"A **BLACK HOLE!**" said Bardot.

"YES!"

"Why is she rolled up into a ball?" asked Dmitri.

"Lots of animals at the zoo would roll themselves into a ball  
when they were frightened," replied Chump.

"We tortoises disappear into our shells," said Hong.

"Of course!" exclaimed Bardot. "Hurtling through that black  
hole must have terrified this creature!"

"And being shot out the other end," agreed Chump.

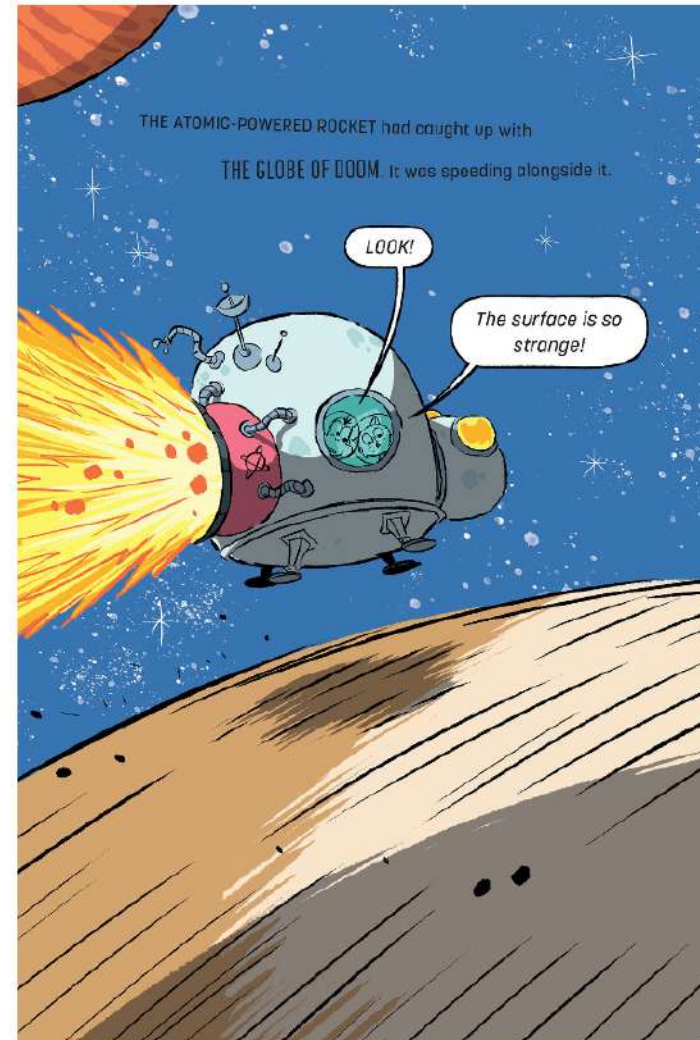












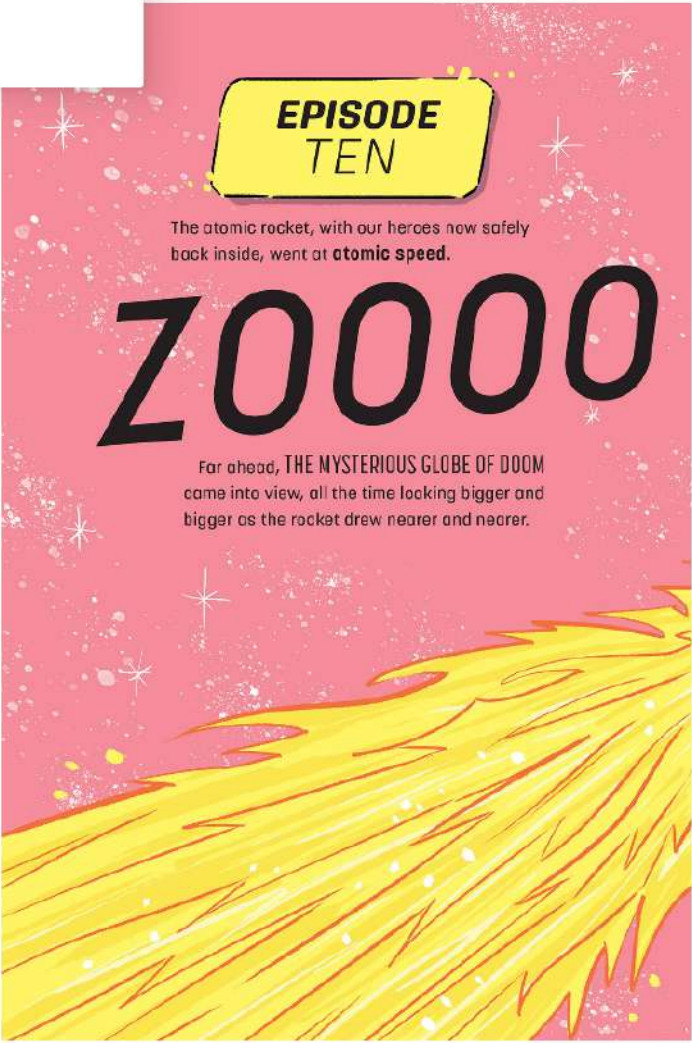


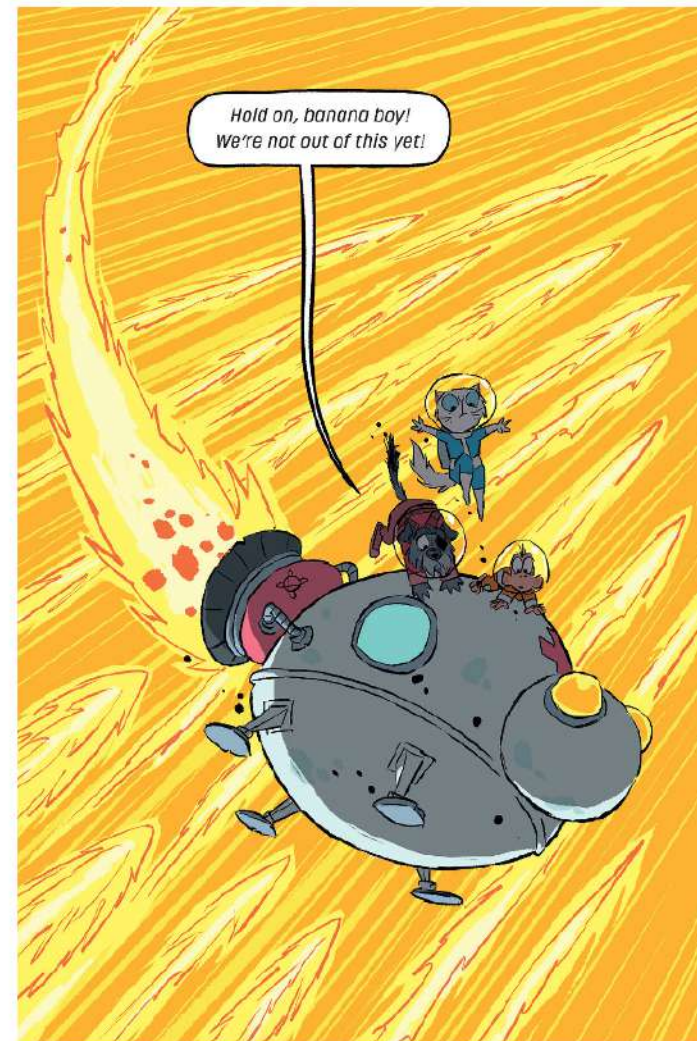
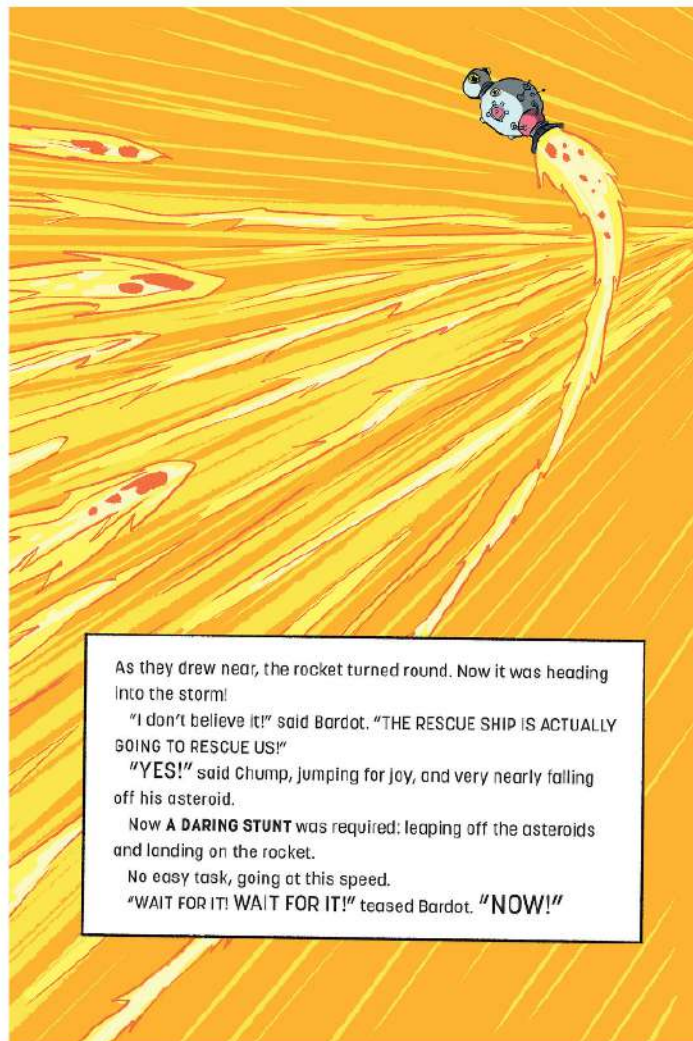


Screenshot saved  
Tap to view your screenshot



SHARE EDIT DELETE







Screenshot saved

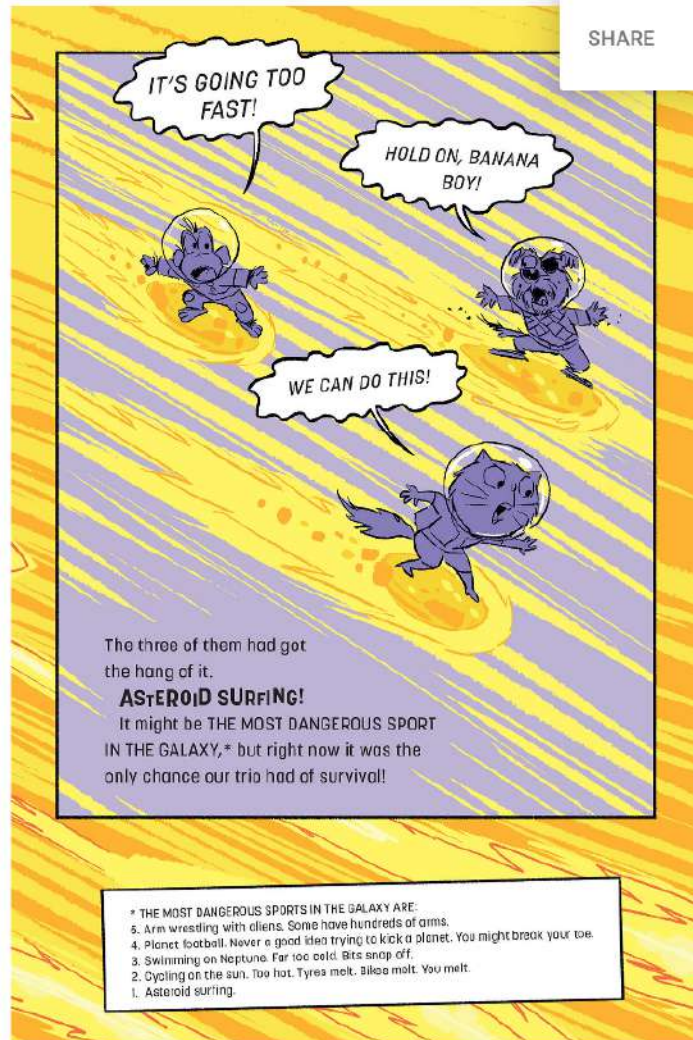
Tap to view your screenshot



SHARE

EDIT

DELETE





Screenshot saved

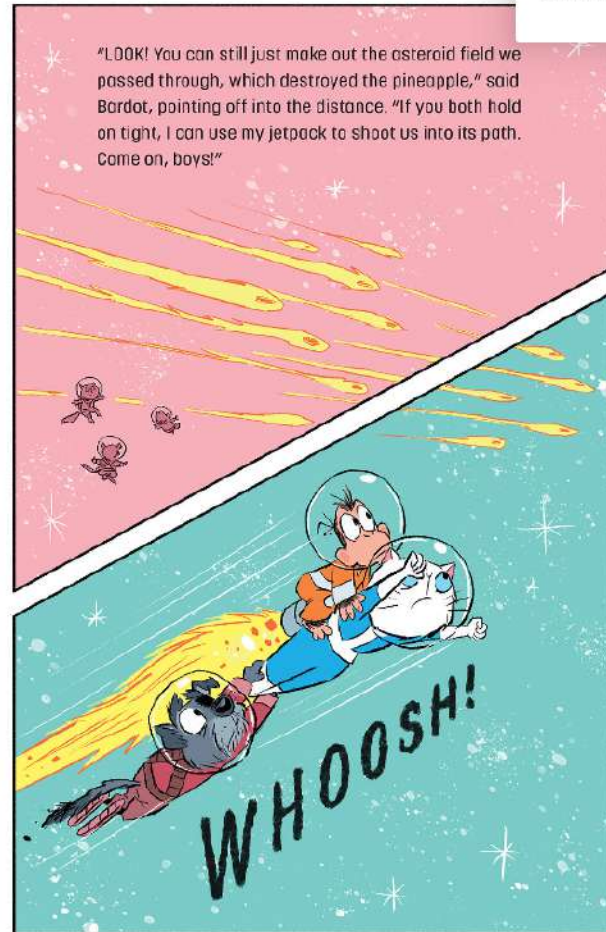
Tap to view your screenshot



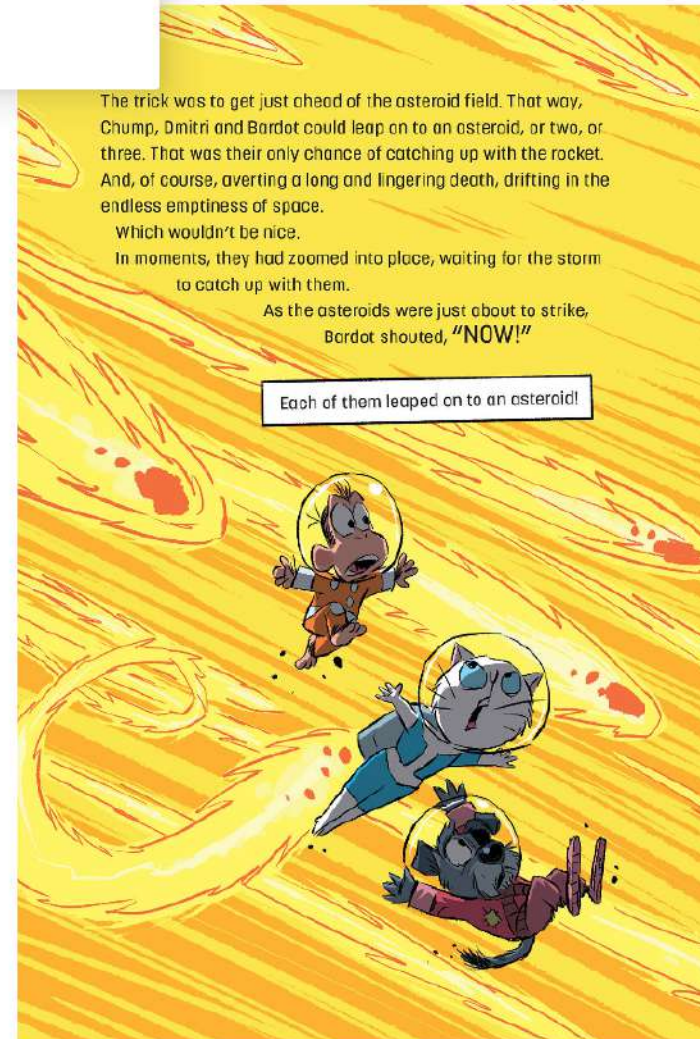
SHARE

EDIT

DELETE



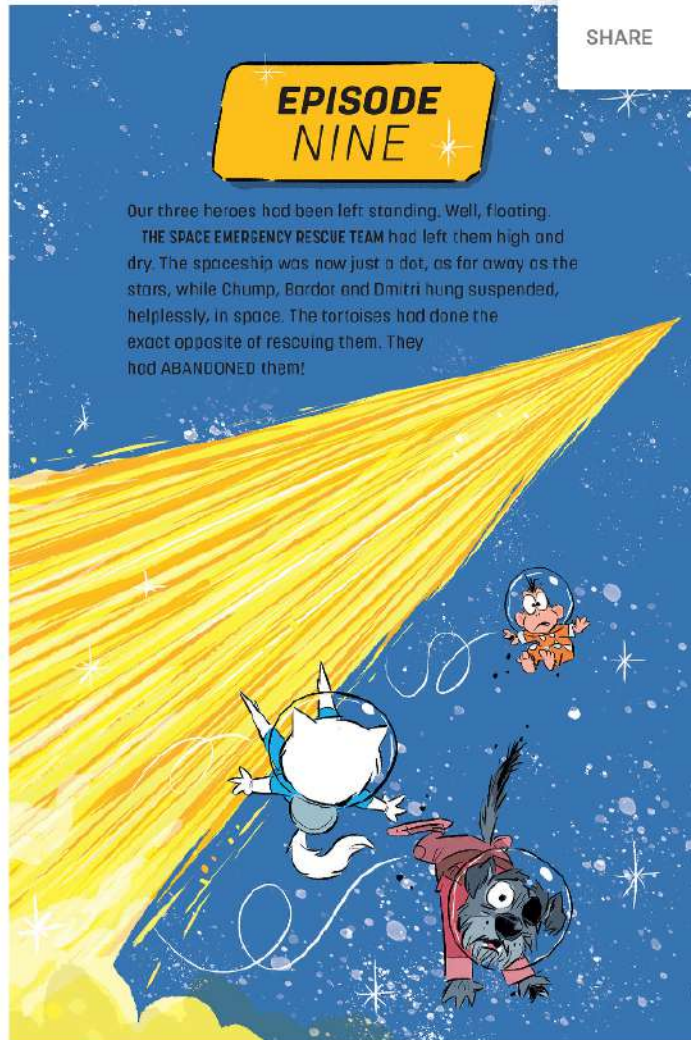
169

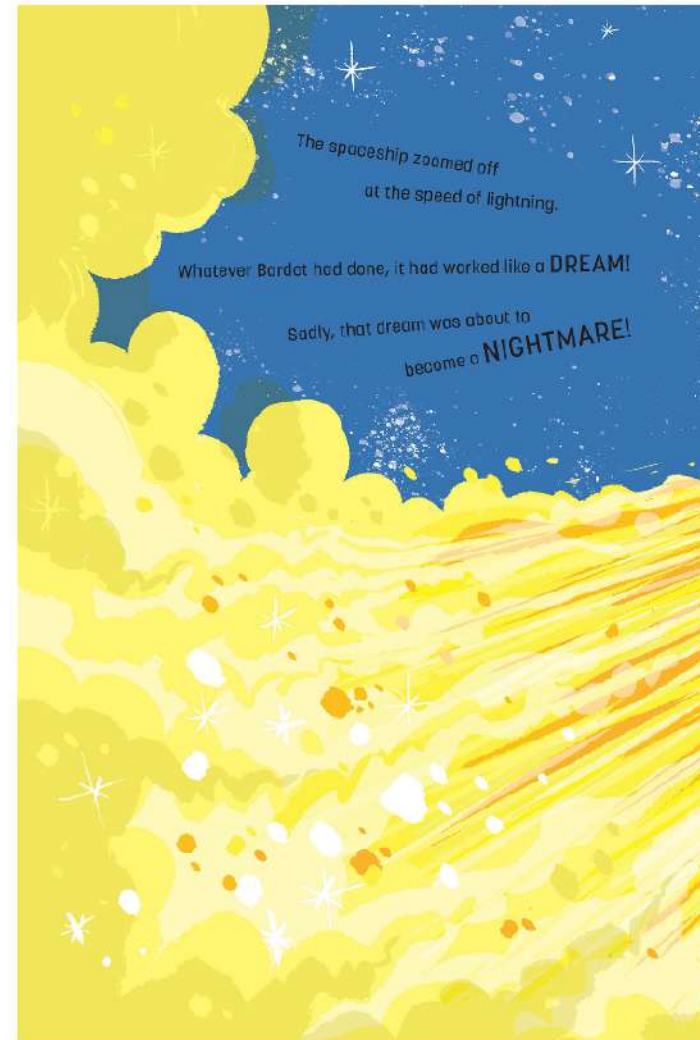
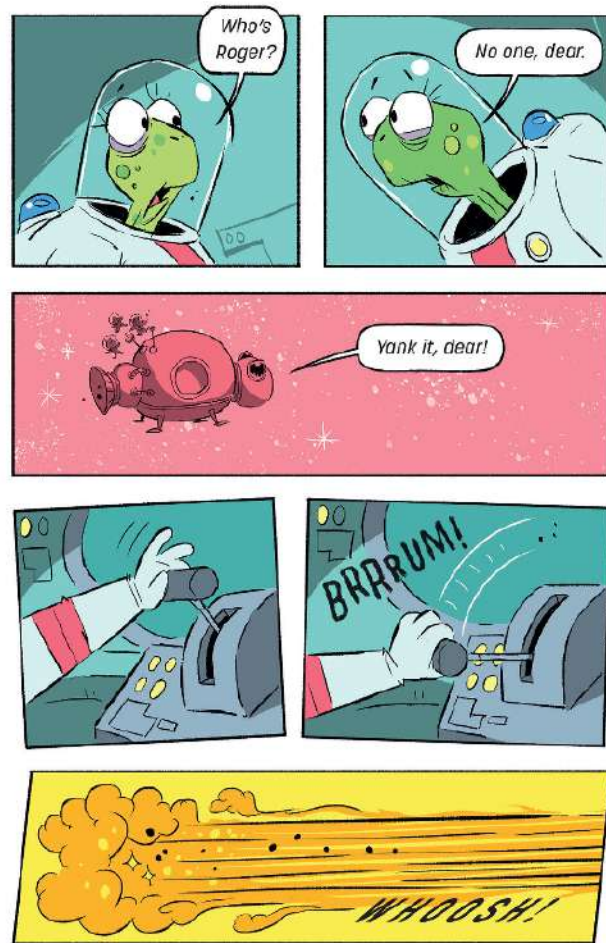




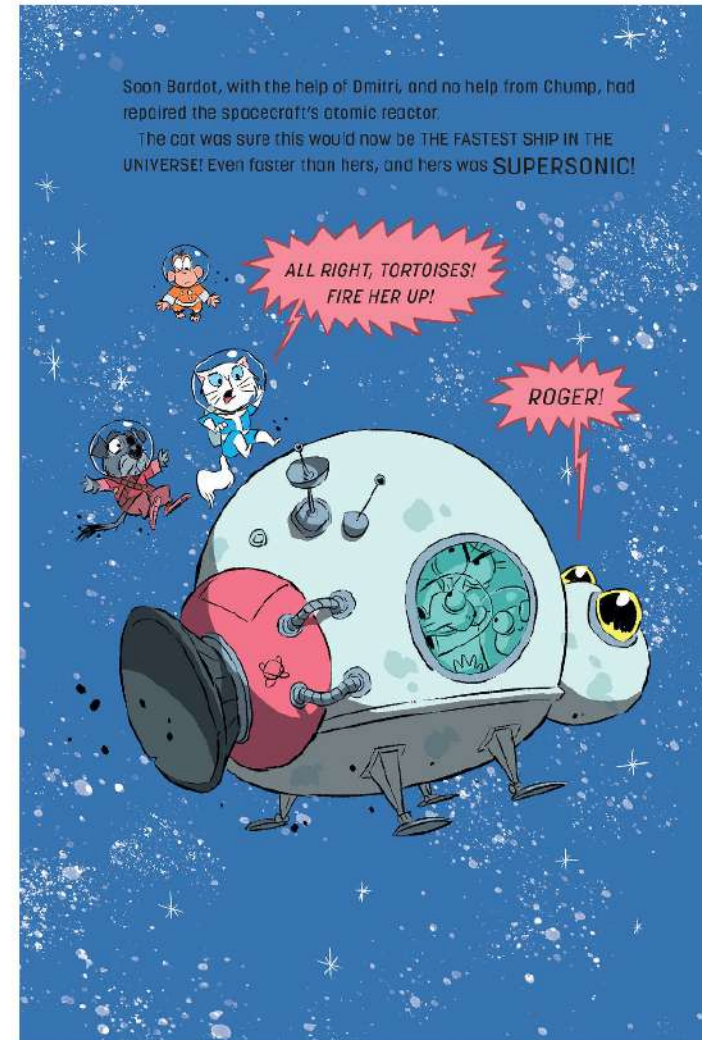
Screenshot saved  
Tap to view your screenshot

SHARE EDIT DELETE











"THIS IS AN ATOMIC REACTOR!" exclaimed Bardot.

"Like an atomic bomb?" asked Dmitri.

"Exactly!"

"That must be why they chose tortoises for this mission. They had a greater chance of surviving the radiation..."

"Well, they have got shells," said Chump.

"It's because they're reptiles, Chump. Reptiles were the only creatures who survived the atomic bomb tests in the desert a century ago."

"If it's powered by an atomic reactor, why does this ship go so slowly?" asked Dmitri.

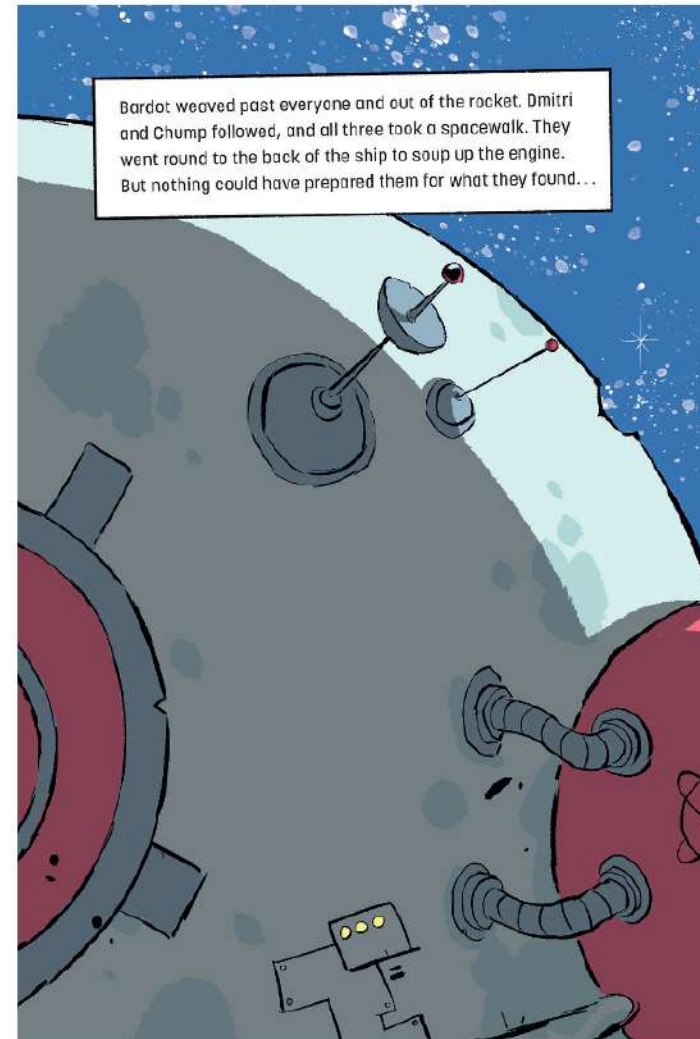
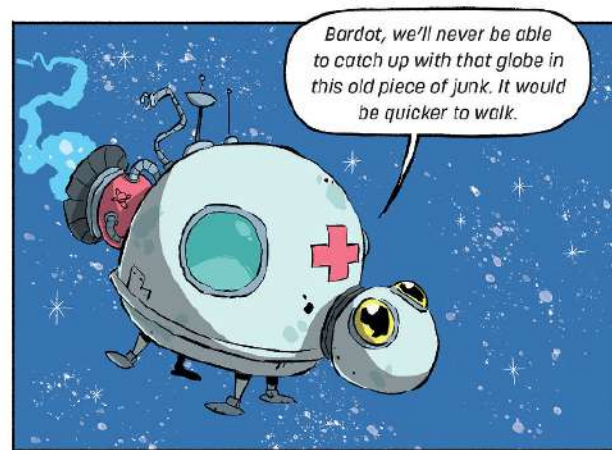
"That's what we've got to find out, boys!" said Bardot.



Let me help!

You can hold this  
spanner.









Screenshot saved

Tap to view your screenshot

SHARE

EDIT

DELETE

"That's one way of looking at it," replied Bardot. "Another is that they took you off the streets, sent you on an adventure beyond your wildest dreams and made you the most famous dog of all time!"



Screenshot saved

Tap to view your screenshot

SHARE

EDIT

DELETE



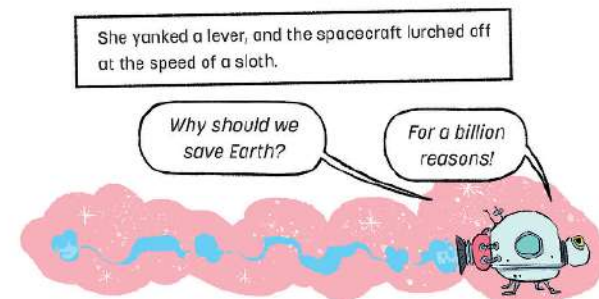
She yanked a lever, and the spacecraft lurched off at the speed of a sloth.

Why should we save Earth?

For a billion reasons!

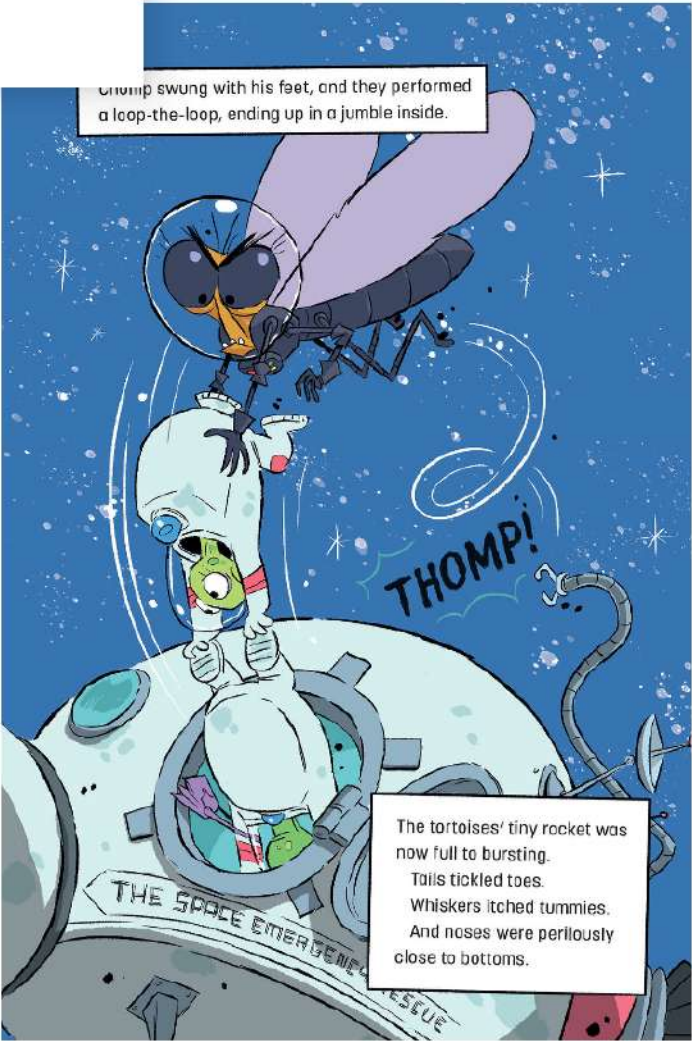
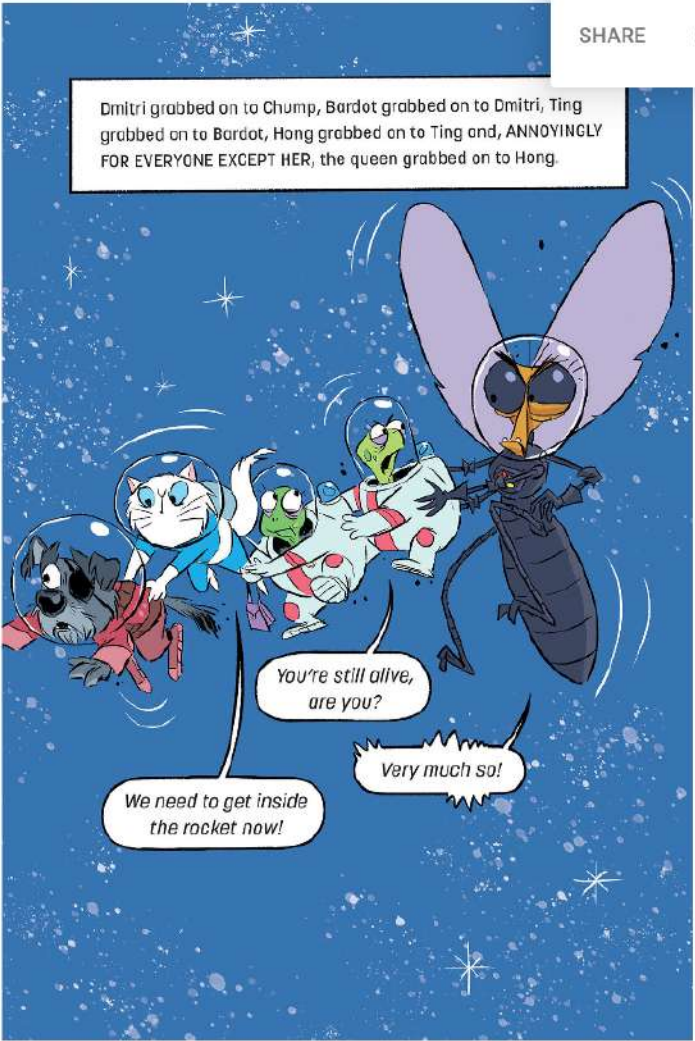




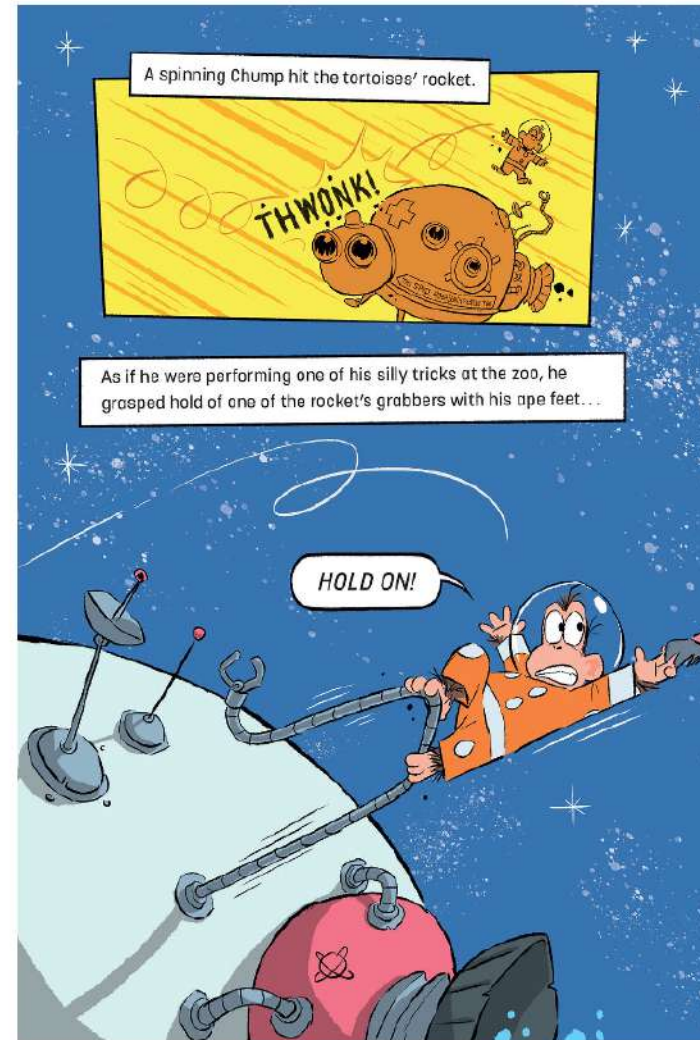
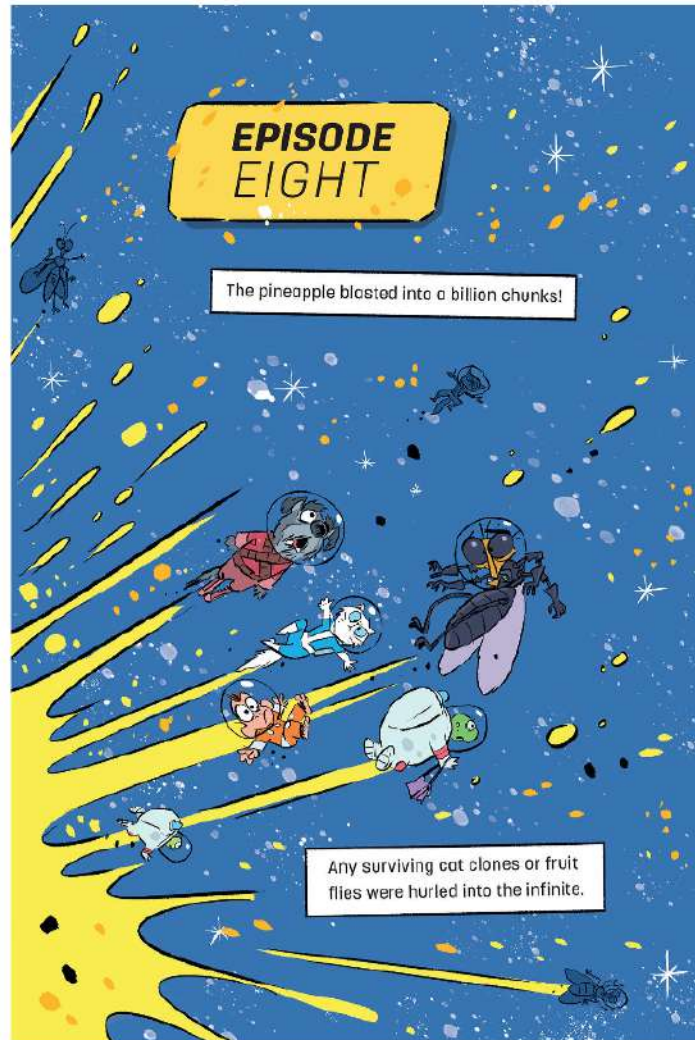


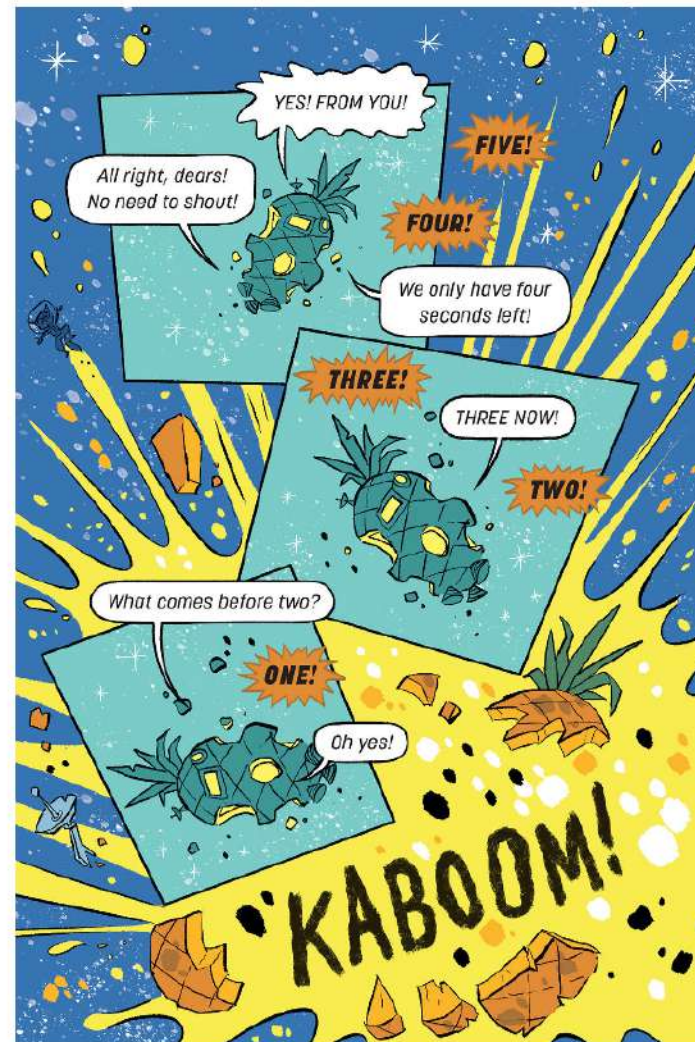
Screenshot saved  
Tap to view your screenshot

SHARE EDIT DELETE













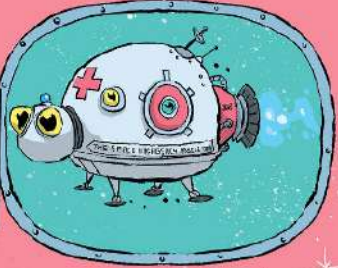
Screenshot saved  
Tap to view your screenshot

SHARE EDIT DELETE

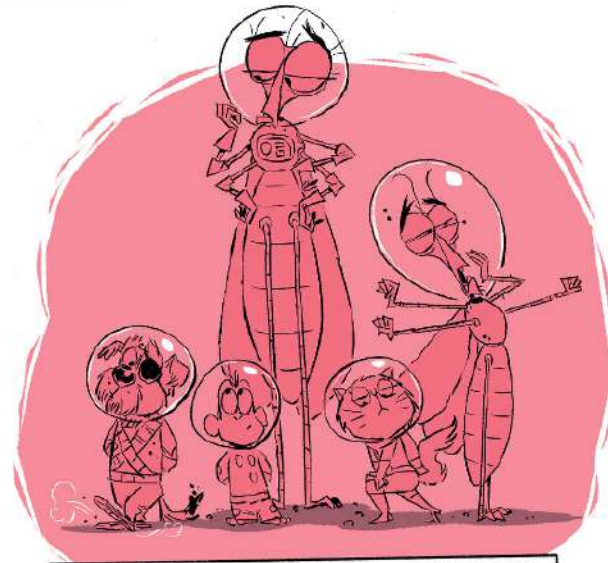
"LOOK!" exclaimed the queen, pointing out of the porthole.  
In the distance, a creaky old space rocket was idling along.  
**THE SPACE EMERGENCY RESCUE TEAM** was emblazoned  
on the side. But they had run out of space, so the "M" was  
missing. It read:

**THE SPACE EMERGENCY RESCUE TEA**

Providing cups of tea in  
emergencies didn't have the  
same sense of drama. Even  
if they came with biscuits.



Those aboard the pineapple shifted around awkwardly  
as they waited and waited and waited.

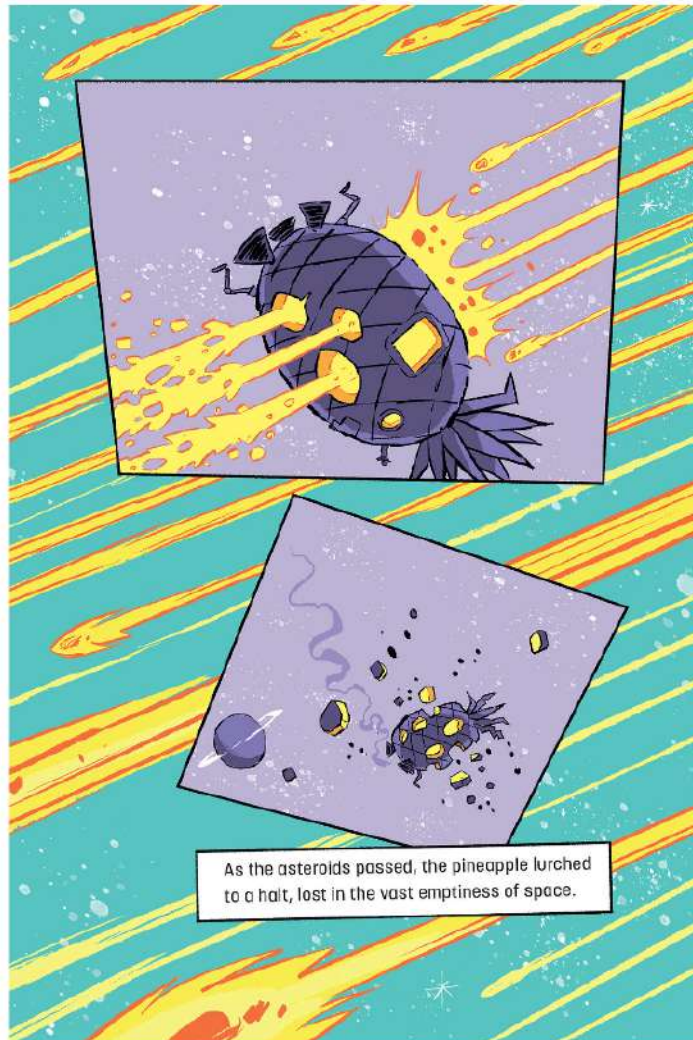


The silence was broken by what sounded like **THUNDER!**

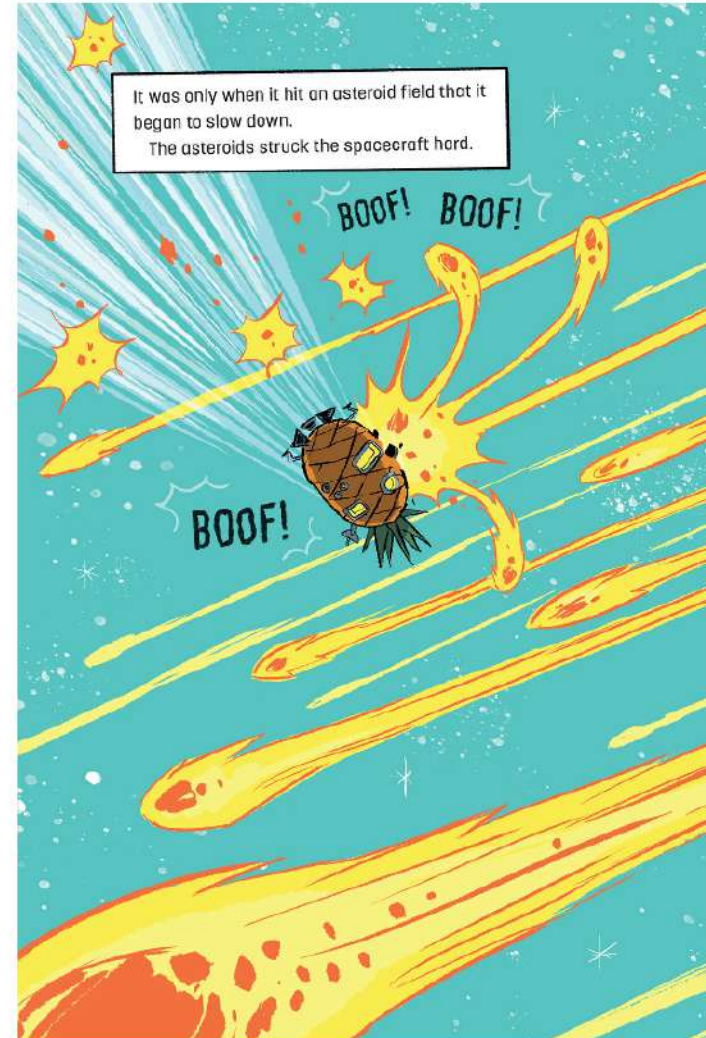
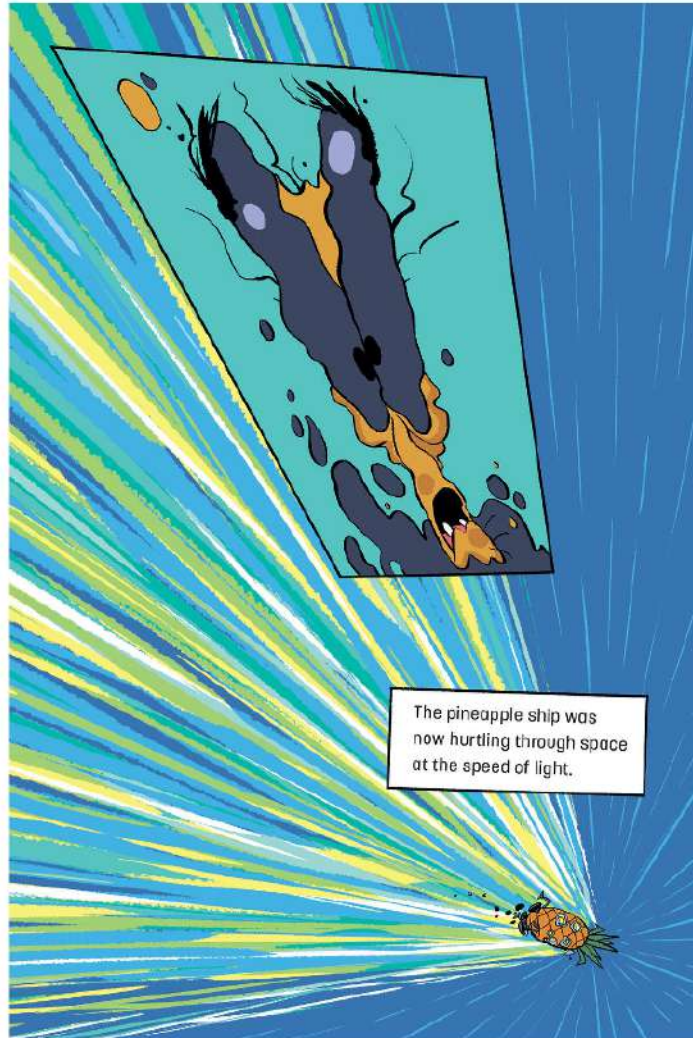


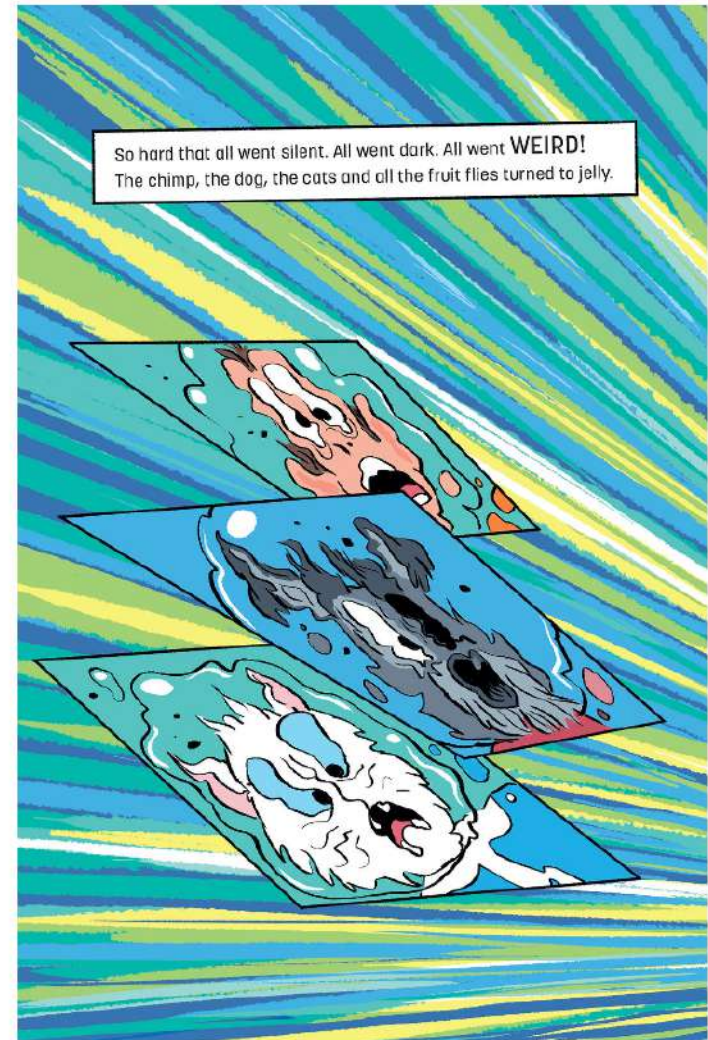
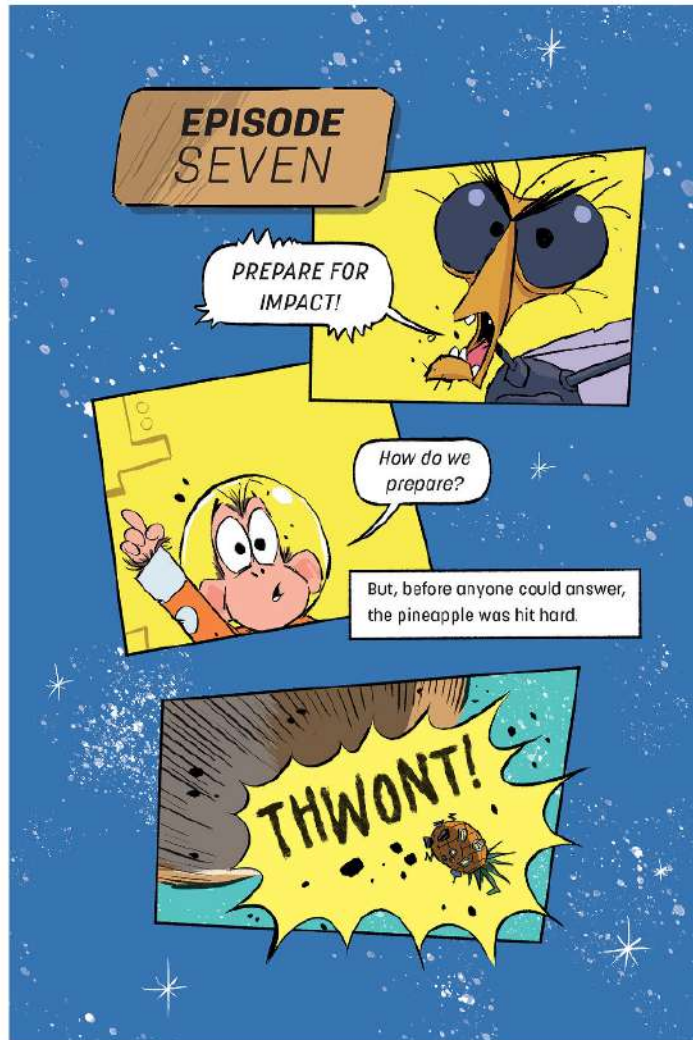














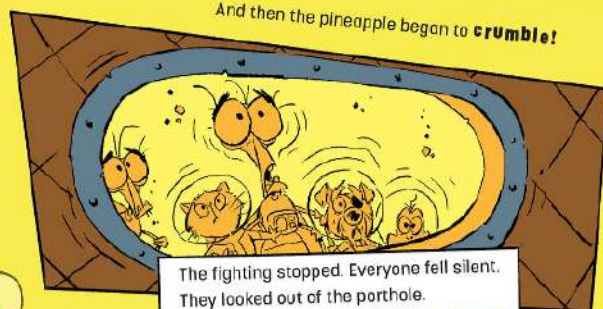


That rumble became a **wobble**.

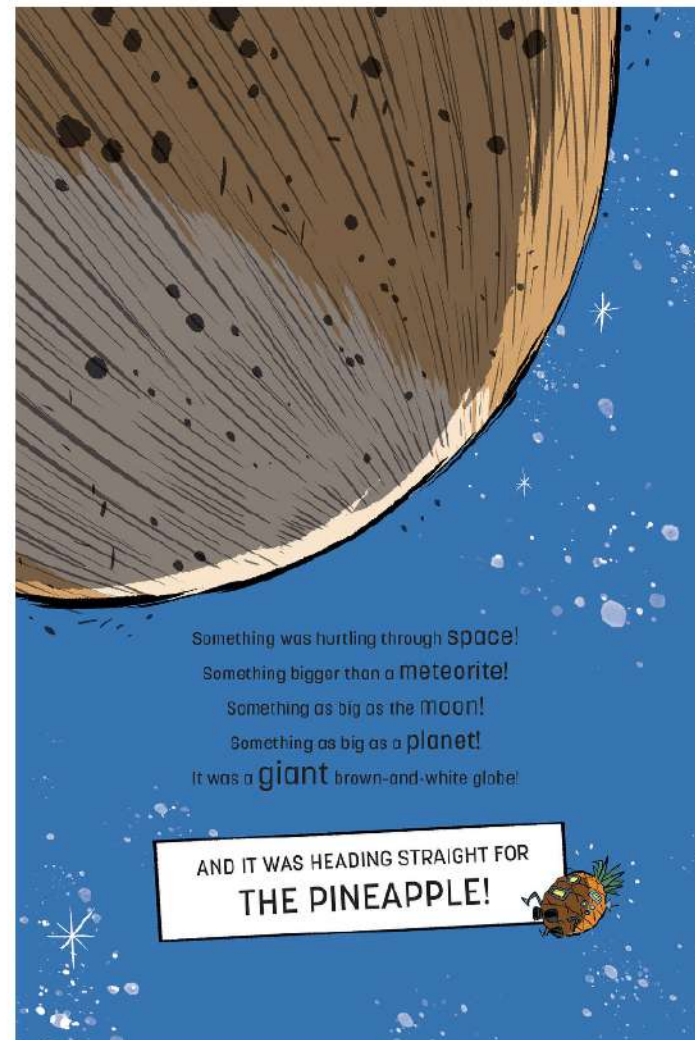
That **wobble** became a **shake**.

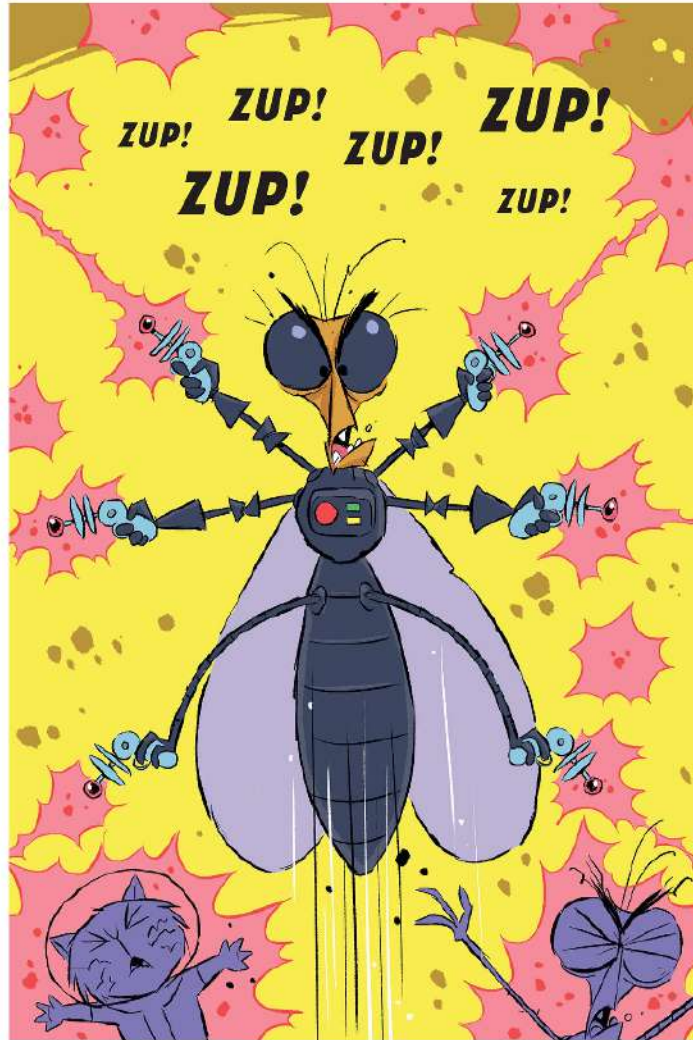


And then the pineapple began to **crumble**!

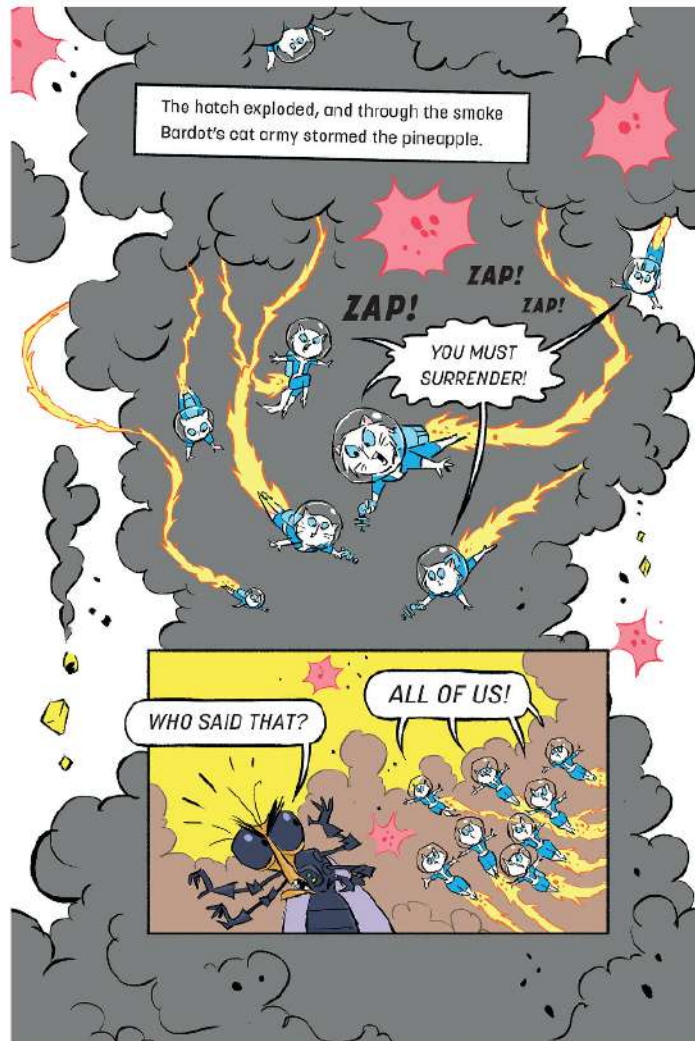


The fighting stopped. Everyone fell silent.  
They looked out of the porthole.



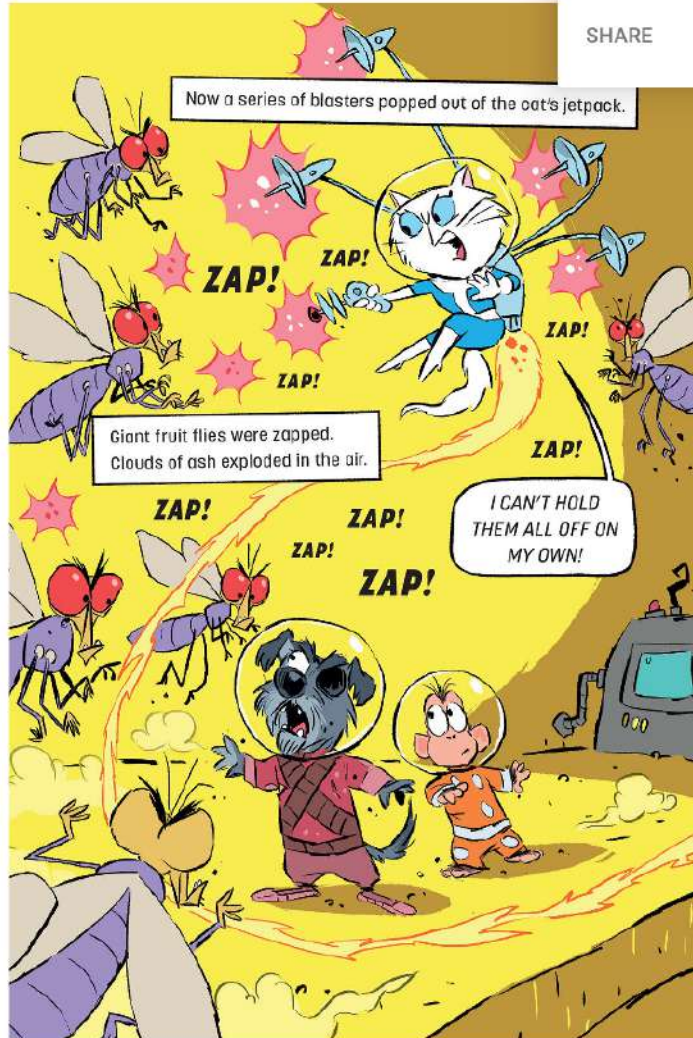






Screenshot saved  
Tap to view your screenshot

SHARE EDIT DELETE



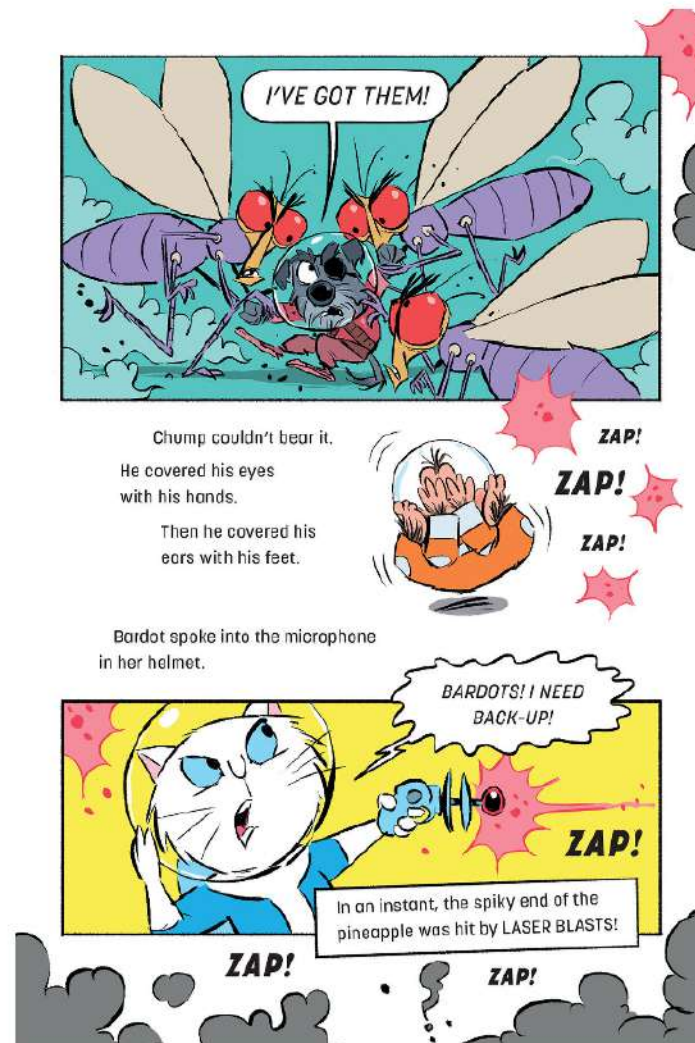
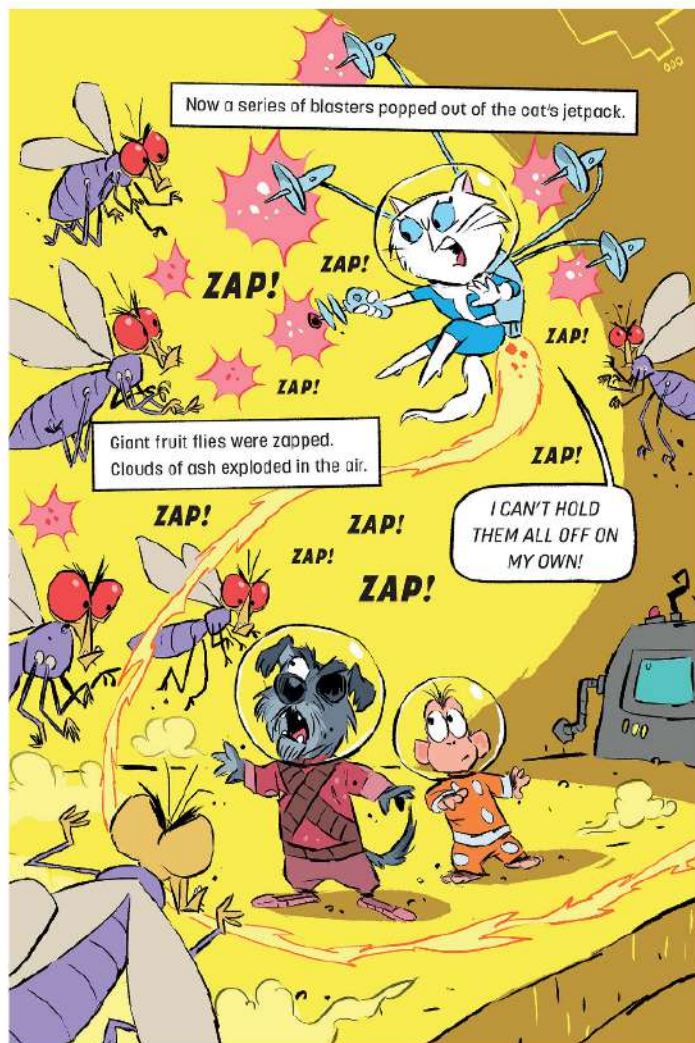
Chump couldn't bear it.  
He covered his eyes  
with his hands.



Bardot spoke into the microphone in her helmet.









"Prisoners! Follow me!"

With that, Bardot marched Dmitri and Chump in the direction of the hatch.

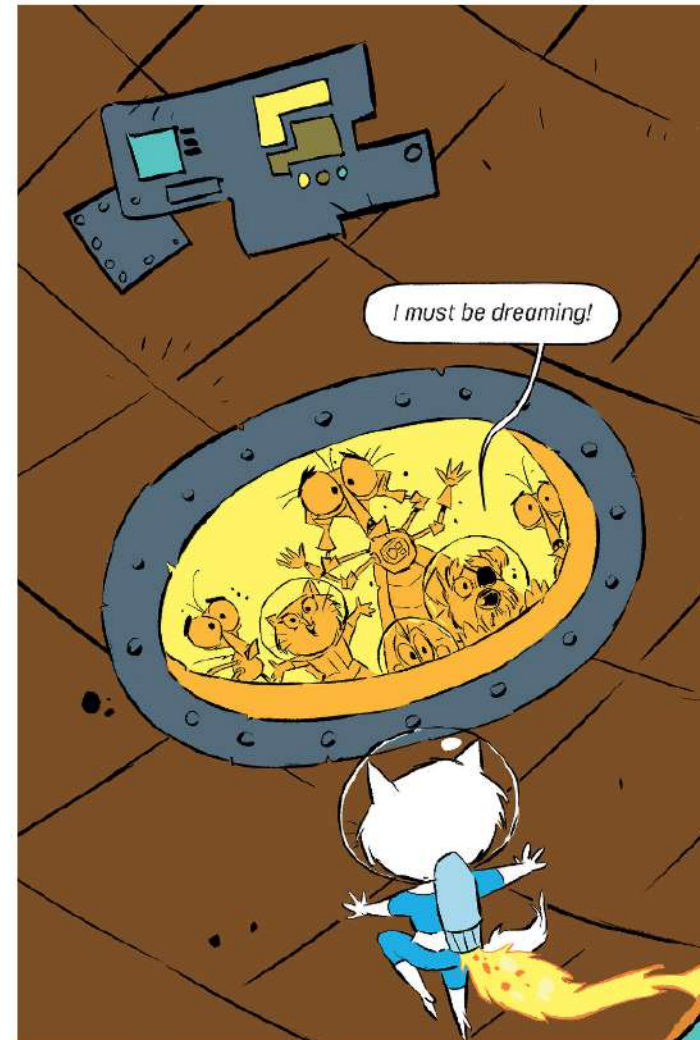


125







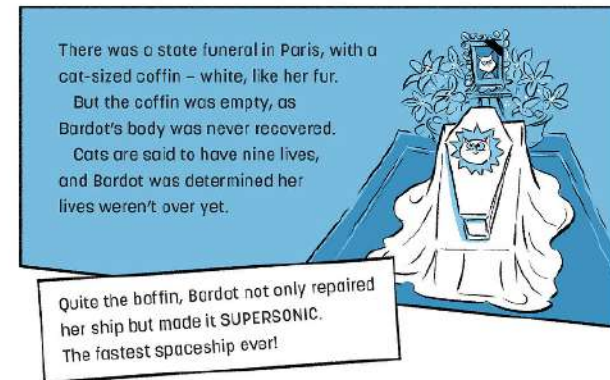






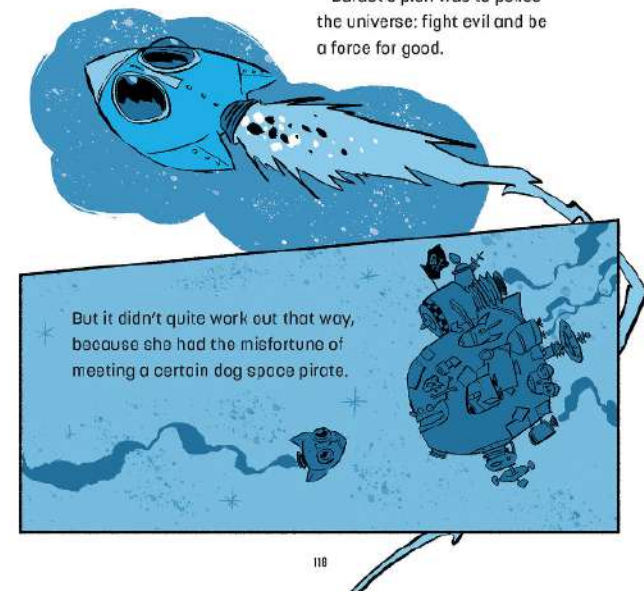


The French space agency had selected this super-smart sassy cat to be their first animal in space. The cat became an instant star, **THE WORLD'S FIRST CATSTRONAUT!** But Bardot's space flight went dramatically wrong.



Quite the haffin, Bardot not only repaired her ship but made it **SUPERSONIC**. The fastest spaceship ever!

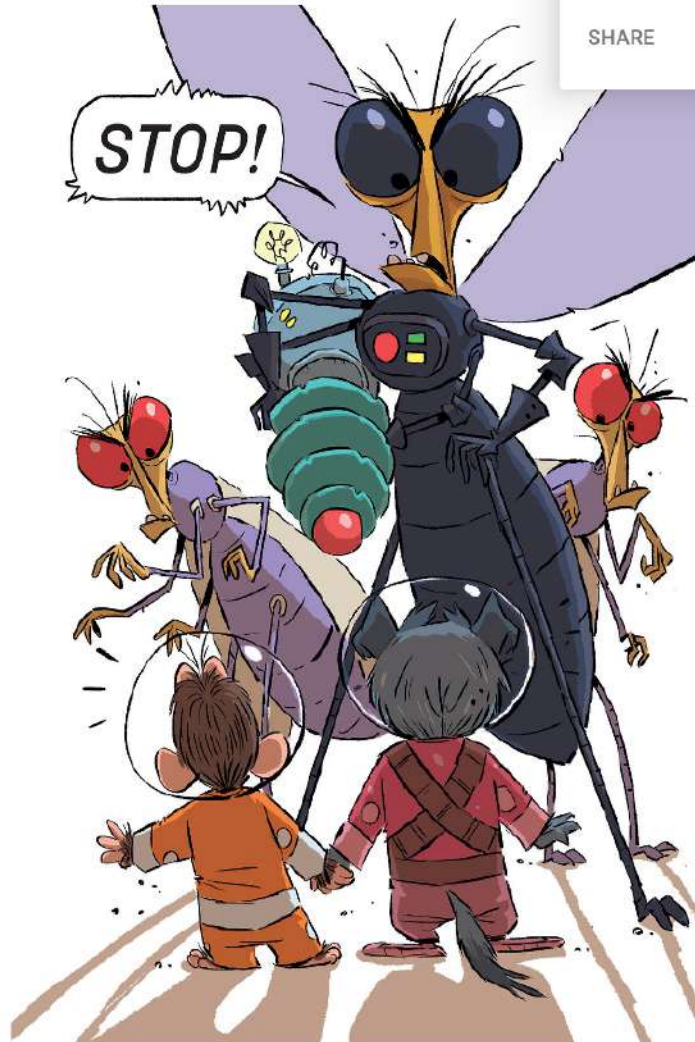
Bardot's plan was to police the universe: fight evil and be a force for good.





Screenshot saved  
Tap to view your screenshot

SHARE EDIT DELETE



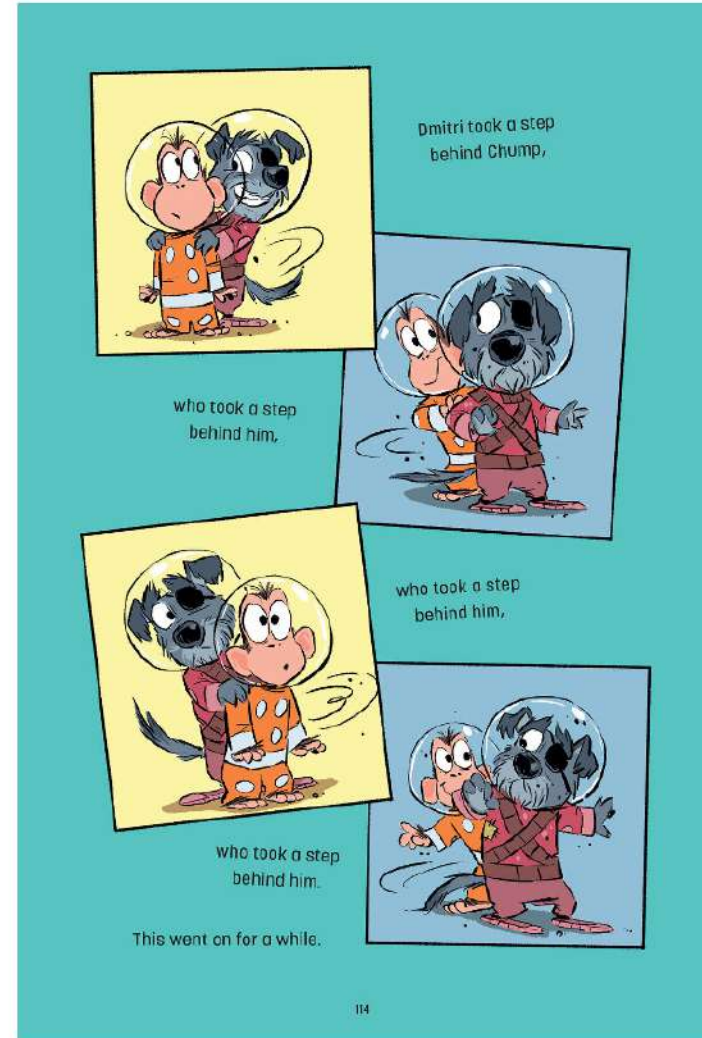
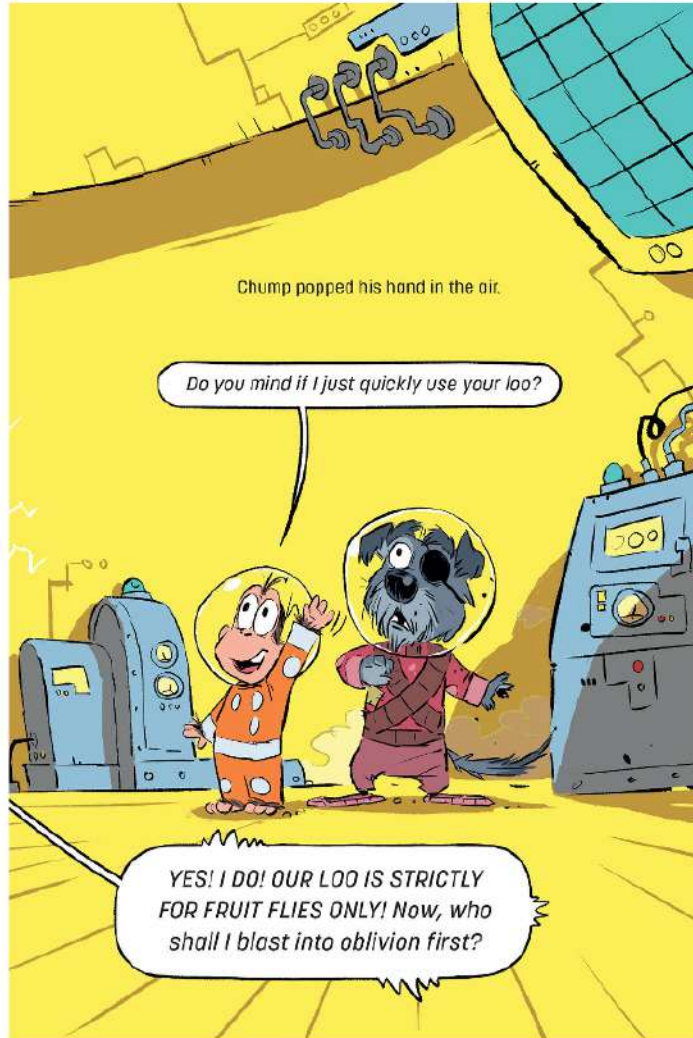
They closed their eyes. Then...

**ZAP!**

It was the laser blaster itself that was zapped!  
"ARGH!" cried the queen as the blaster dropped  
out of her front legs.



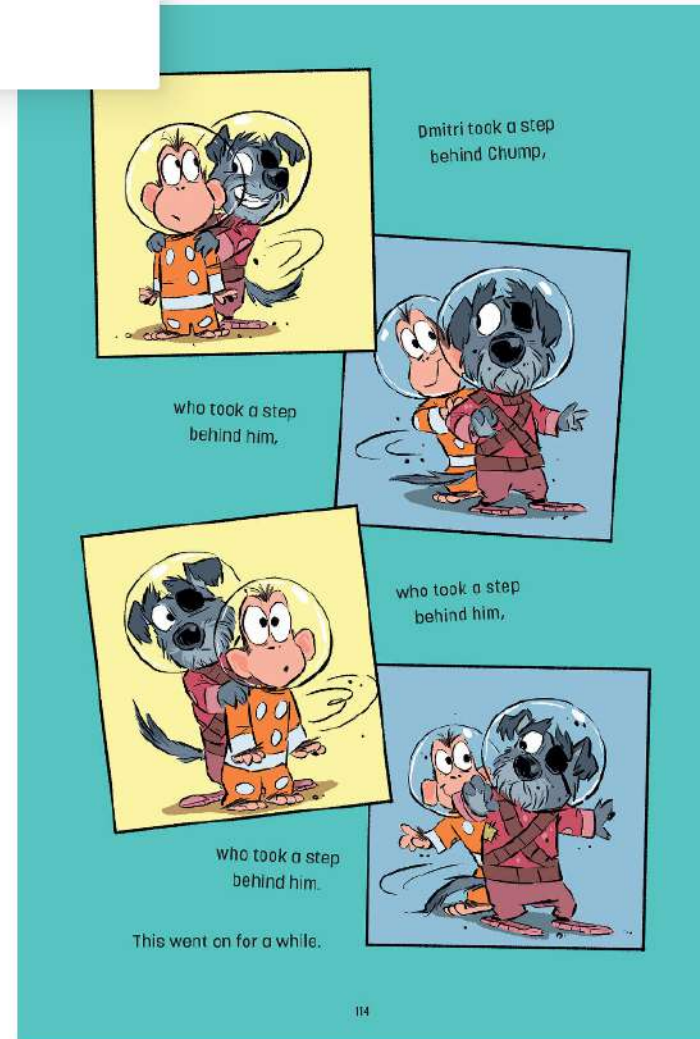
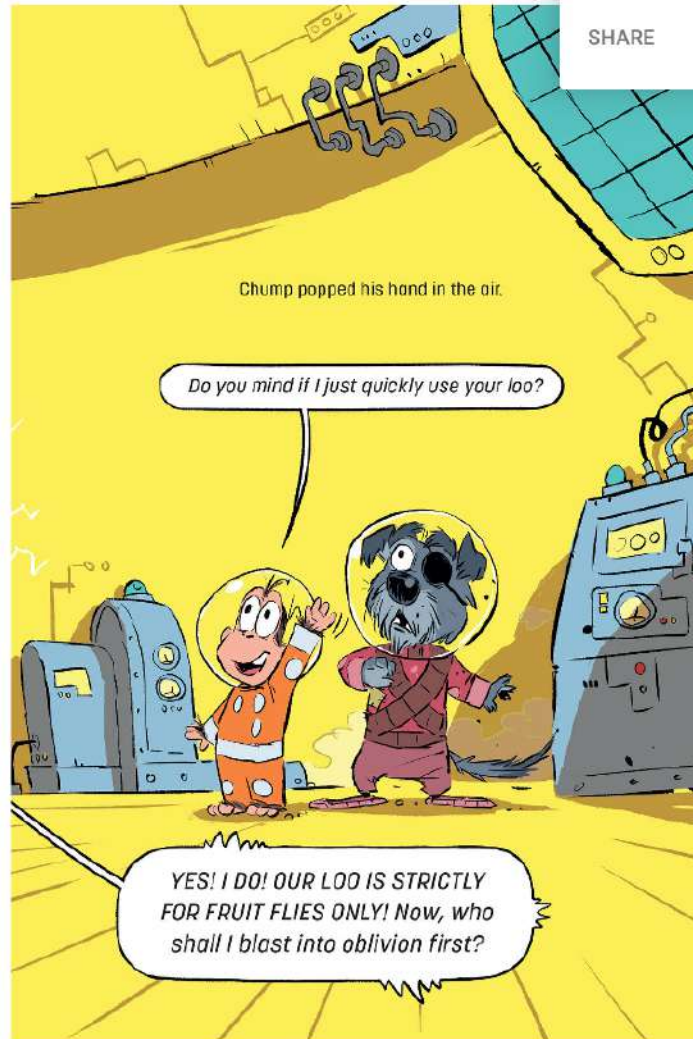
All eyes turned towards the hatch.





Screenshot saved  
Tap to view your screenshot

SHARE EDIT DELETE



Screenshot saved

Tap to view your screenshot



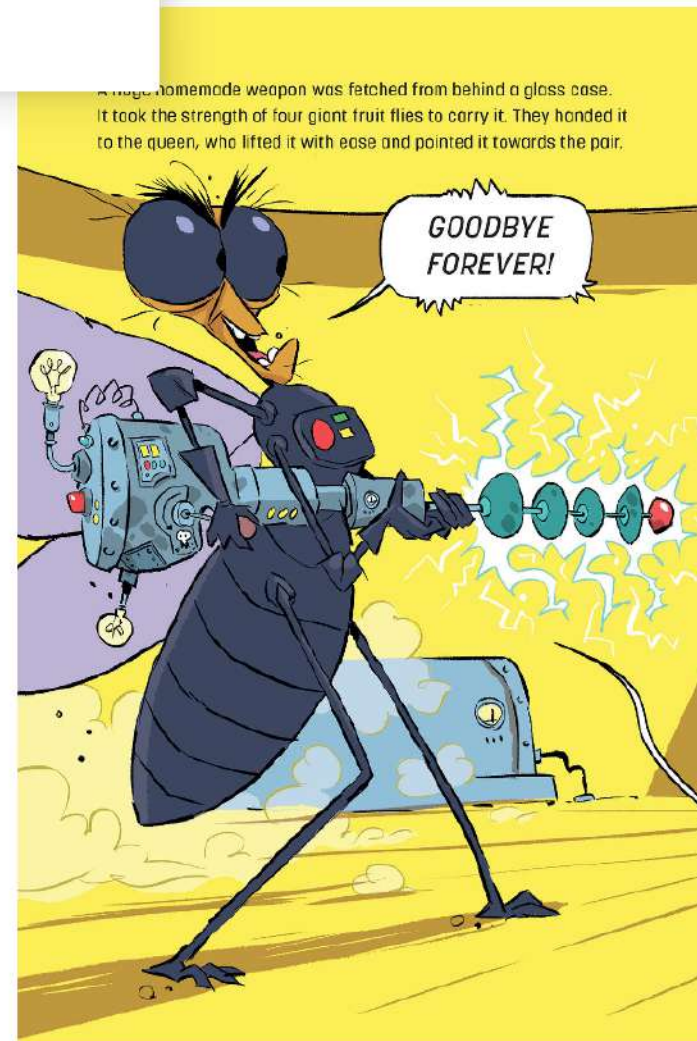
SHARE

EDIT

DELETE



111





"HOW DARE YOU!" thundered the queen.

"Dops!" said Chump.

"You chump!" barked Dmitri.

"I know."

We will savour every moment of killing you!  
We love killing! Fruit mainly, but we are branching  
out. Chimps. Dogs. Whatever! And when we have  
killed you two until you are dead, we will wreak  
our revenge on the entire human race!

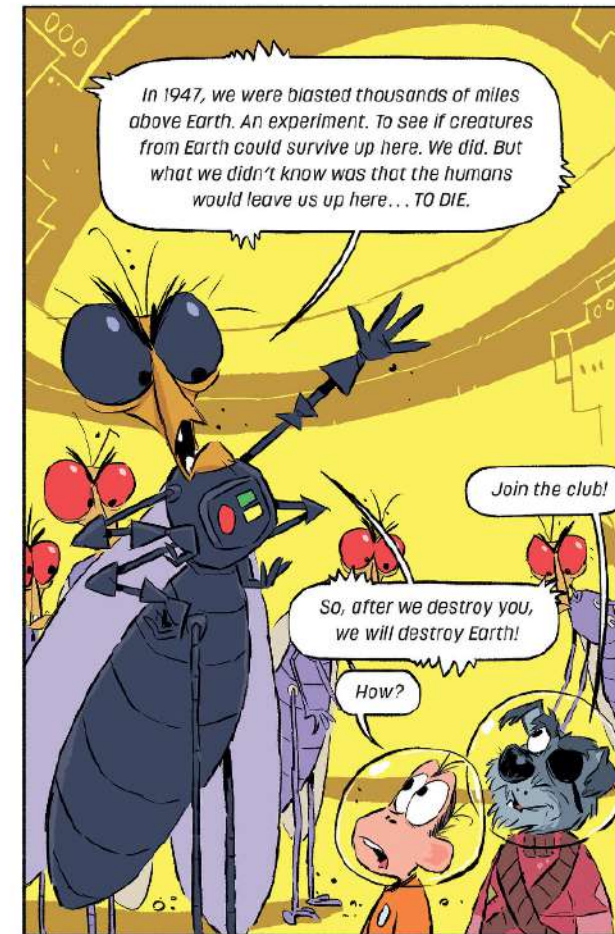
Why?

The queen looked around at her swarm.

We fruit flies made  
history as the first living  
creatures in space!

Oh, here we go  
again.

109



110



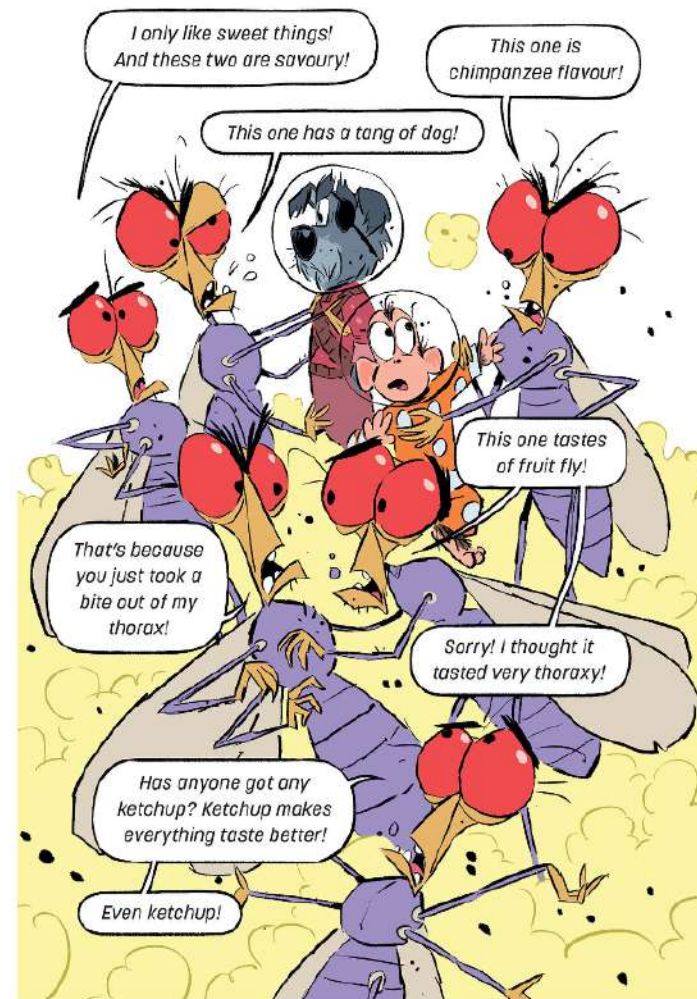
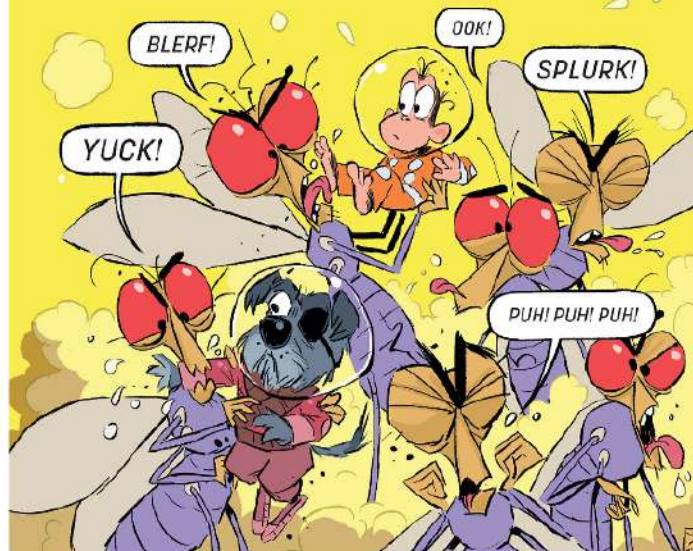


## EPISODE SIX

"EURGH!" exclaimed one of the fruit flies.

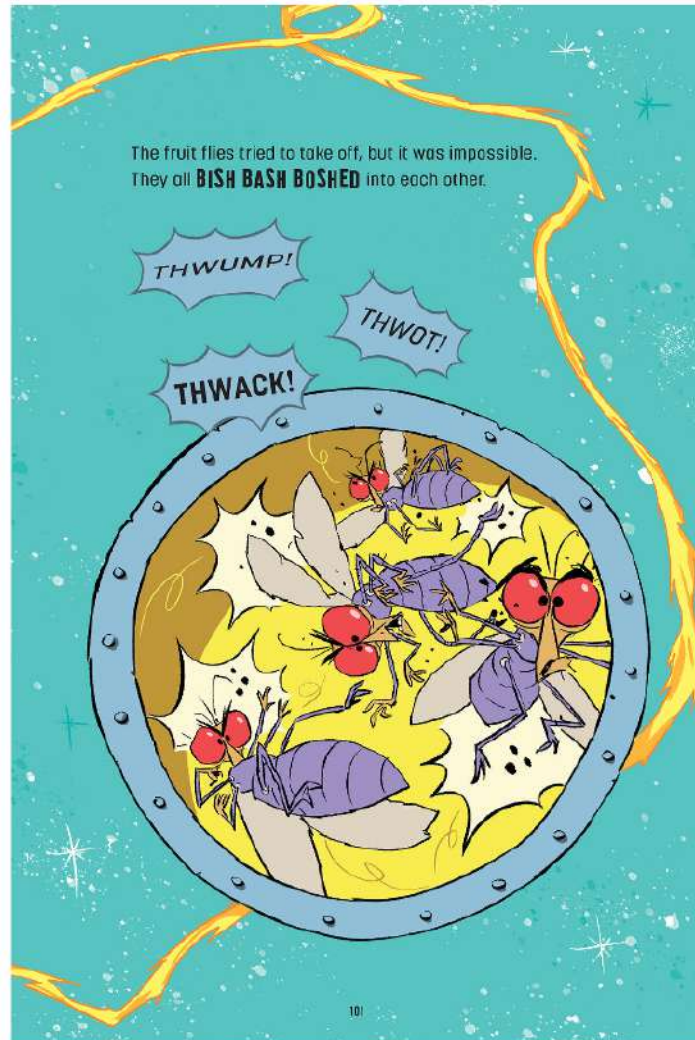
### "THEY TASTE REVOLTING!"

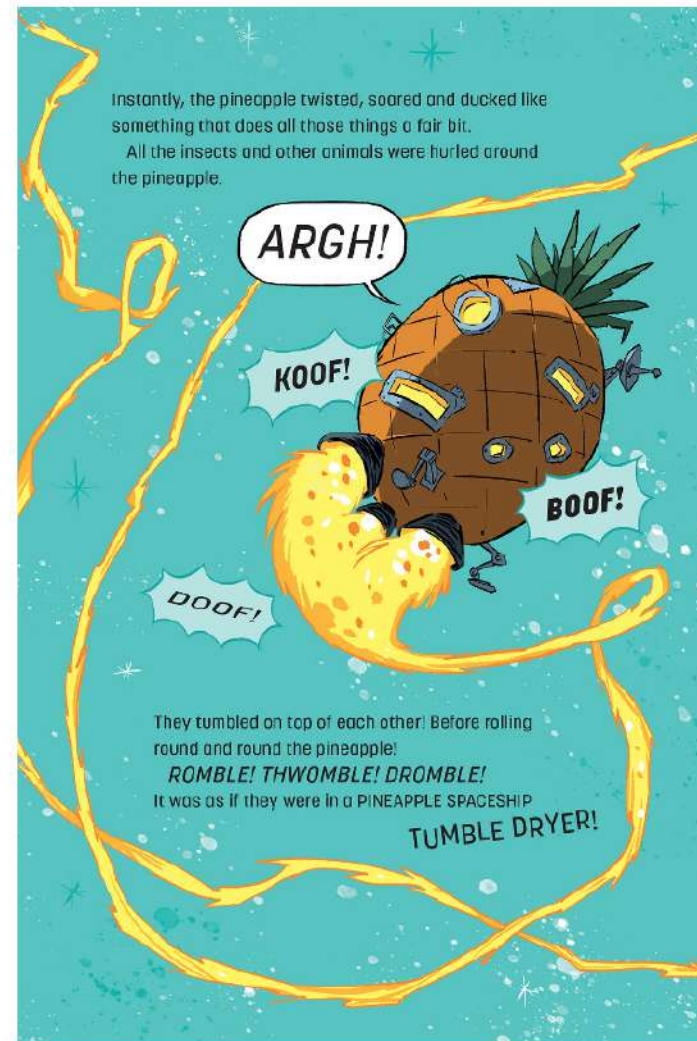
Just the tiniest nibble of the dog or the chimp was enough to make them all want to BARF!



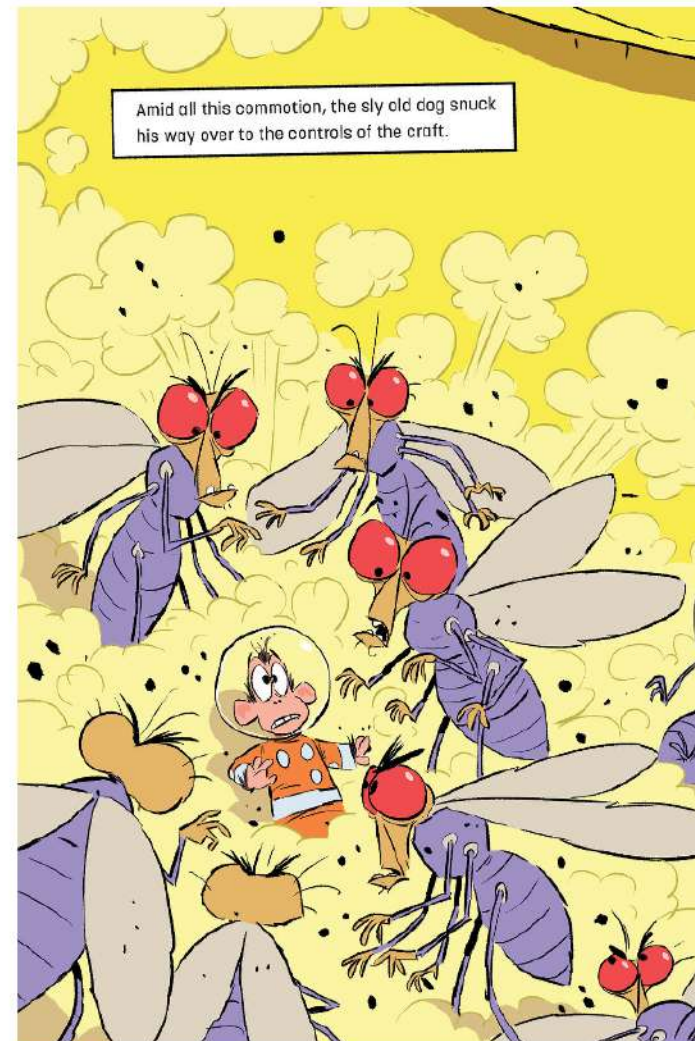












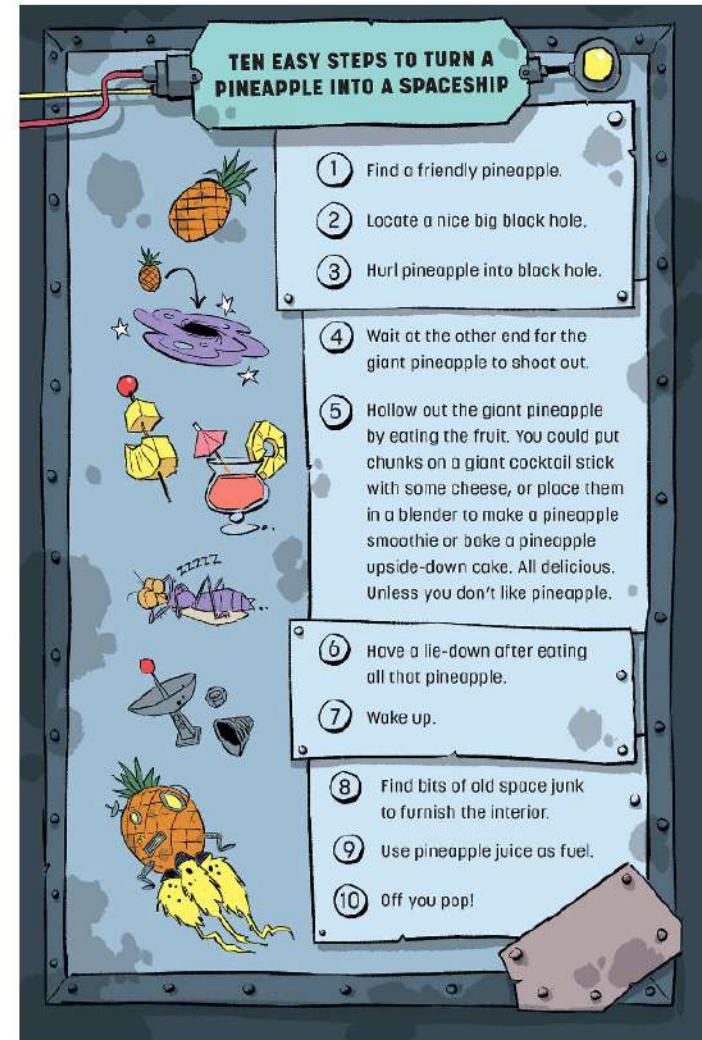


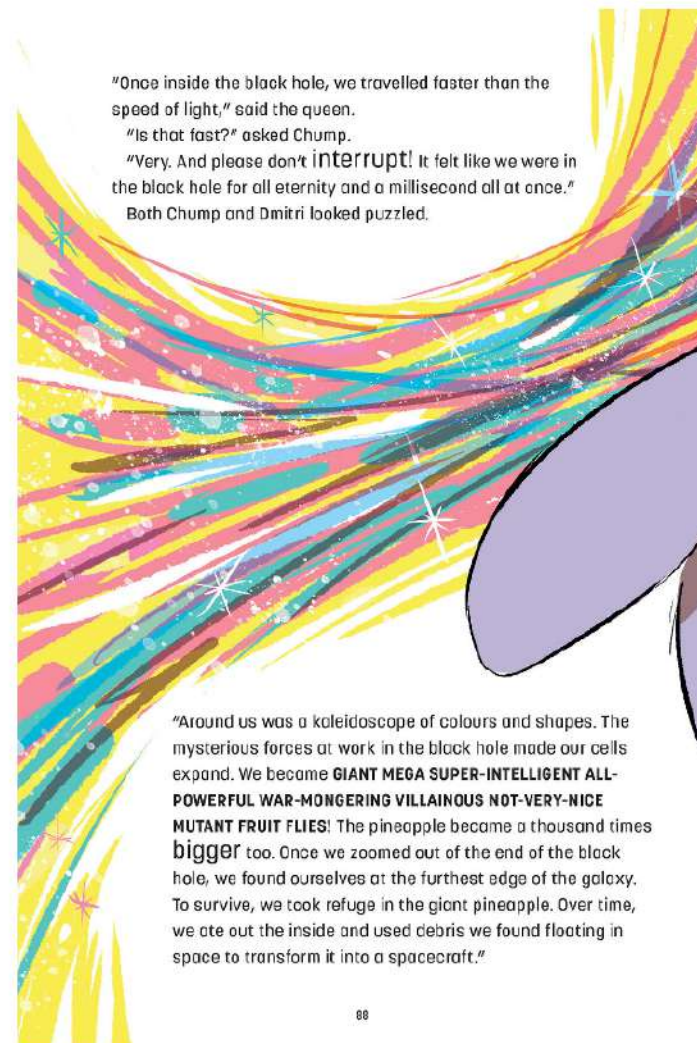
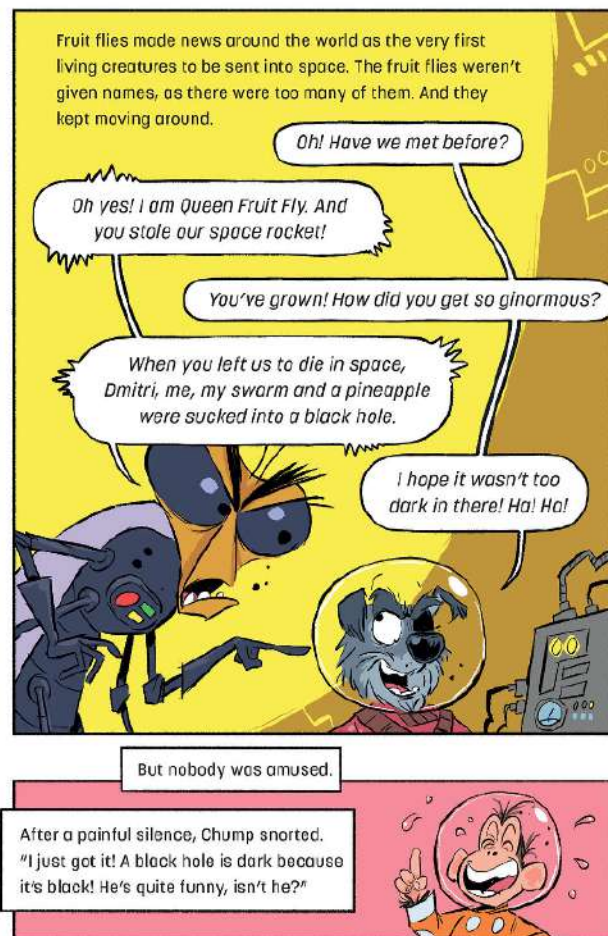




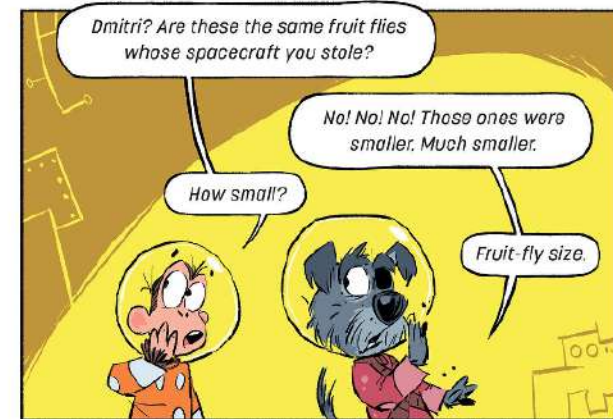
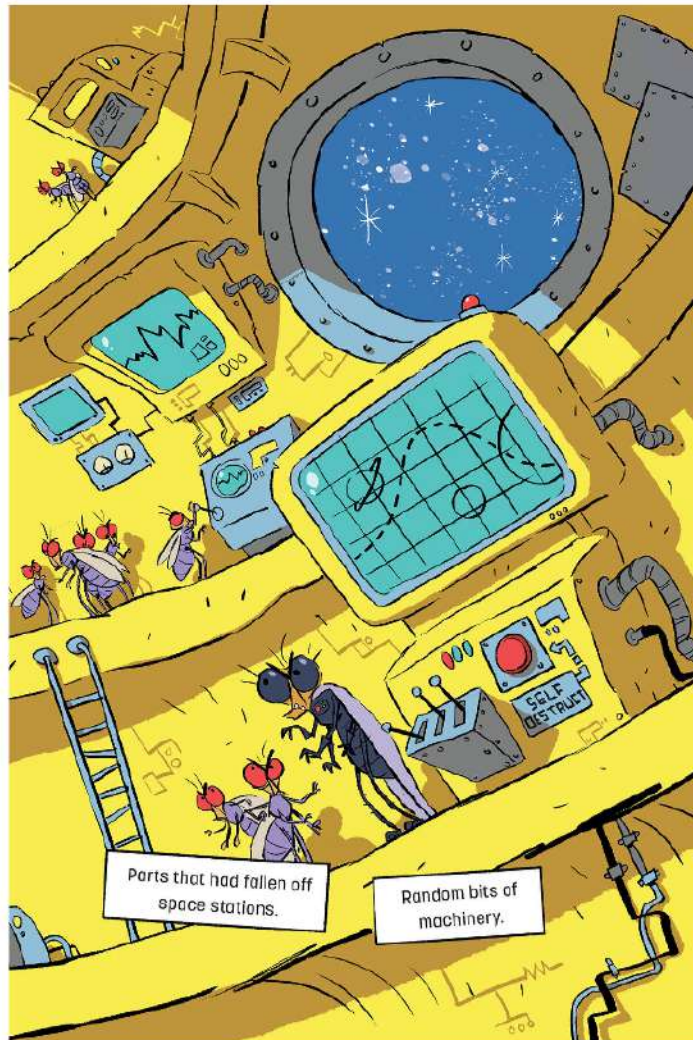






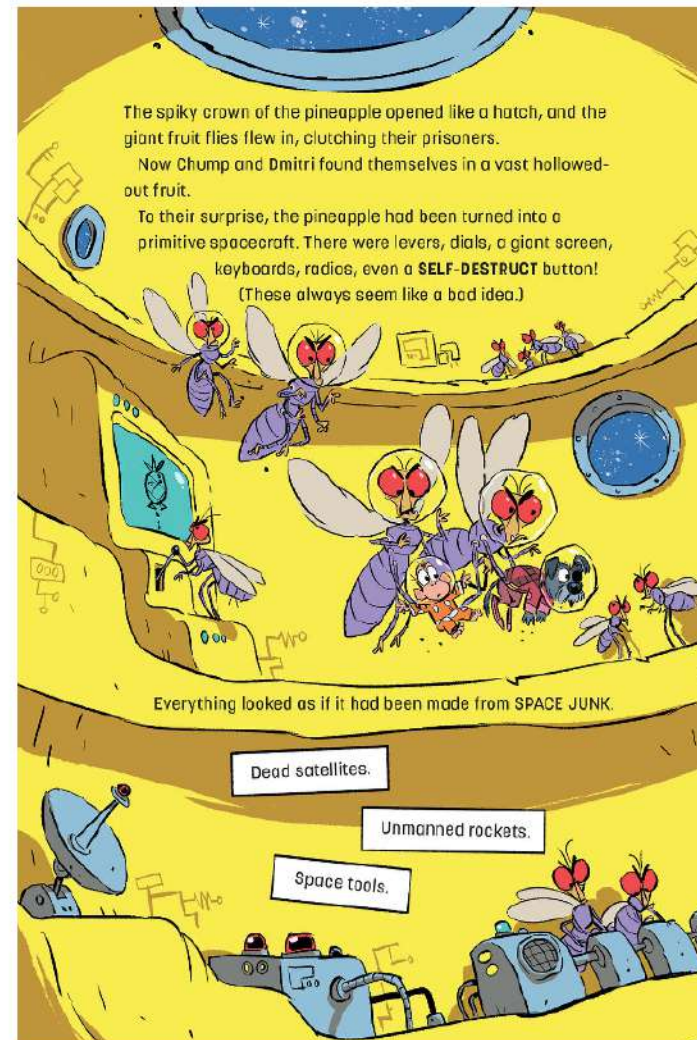
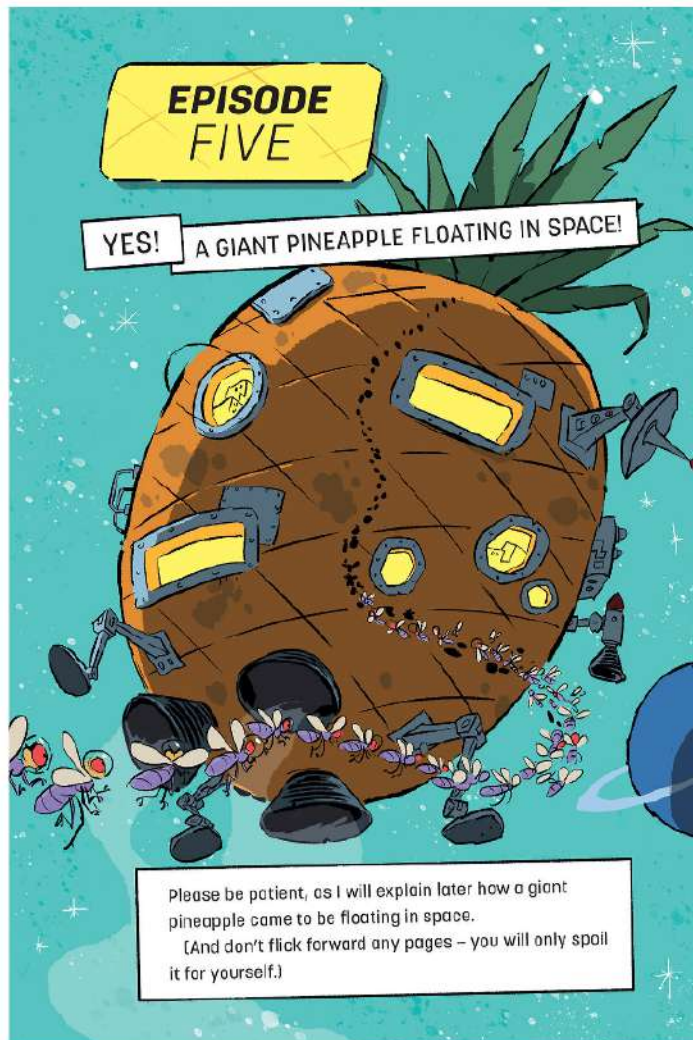




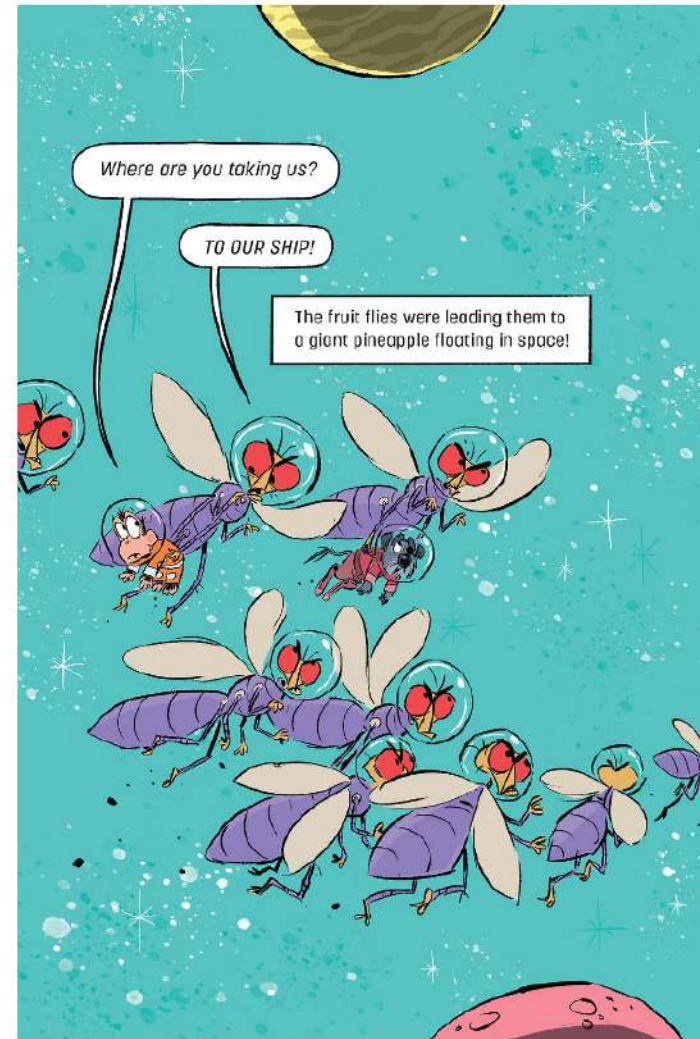
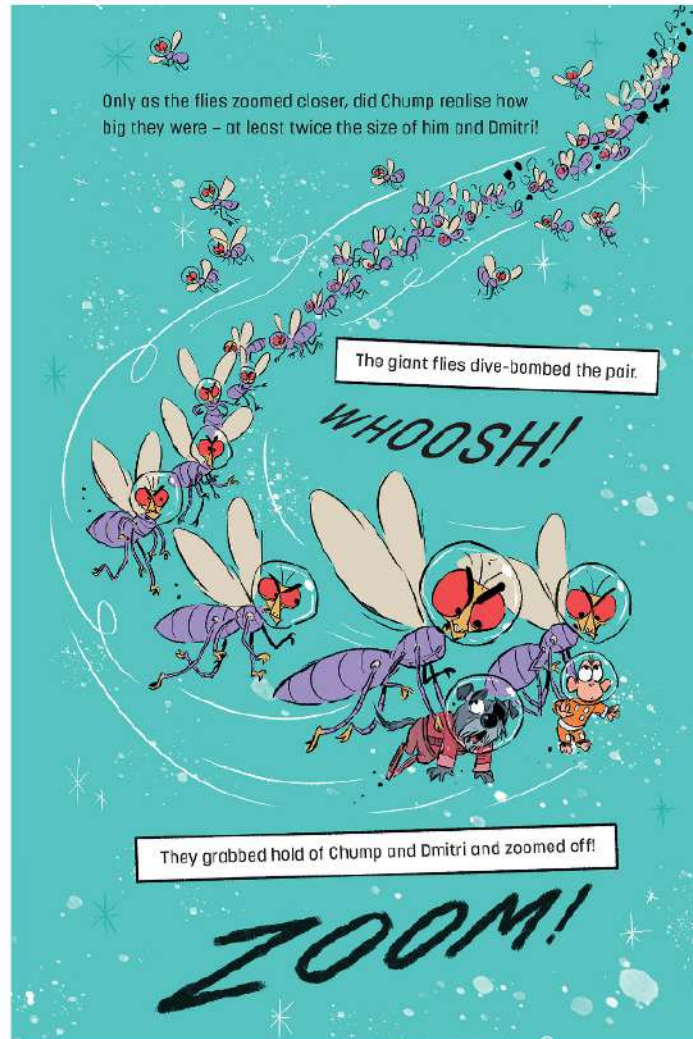


The swarm parted as an even taller fruit fly with bulging black eyes flew to the front. It was apparent this one was their leader. The one who must be obeyed! She hissed at them.



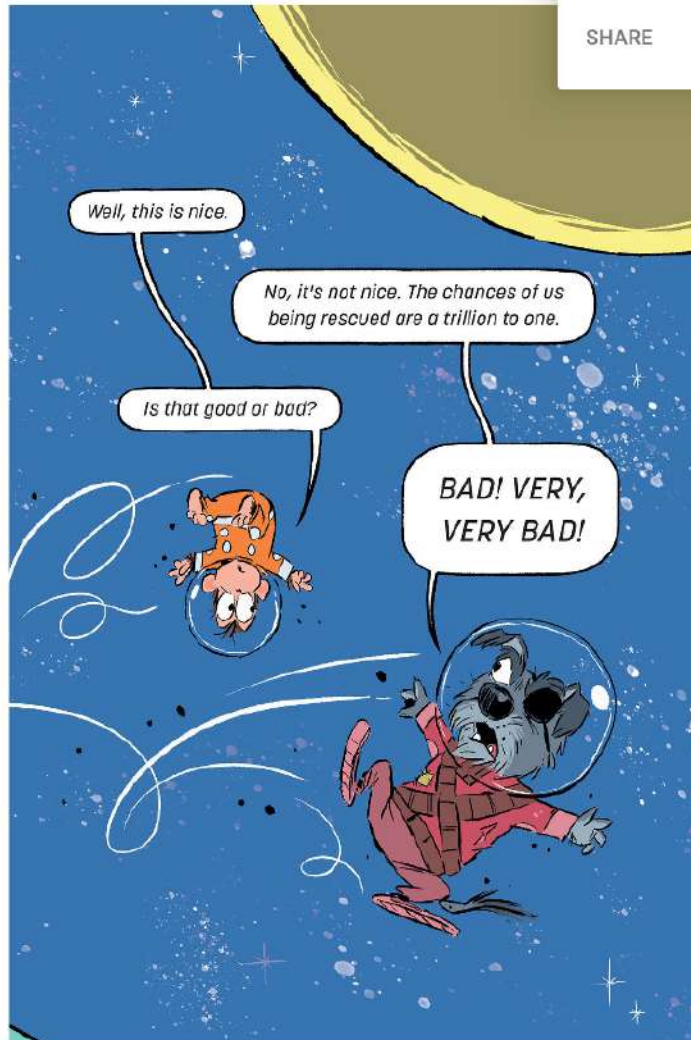






Screenshot saved  
Tap to view your screenshot

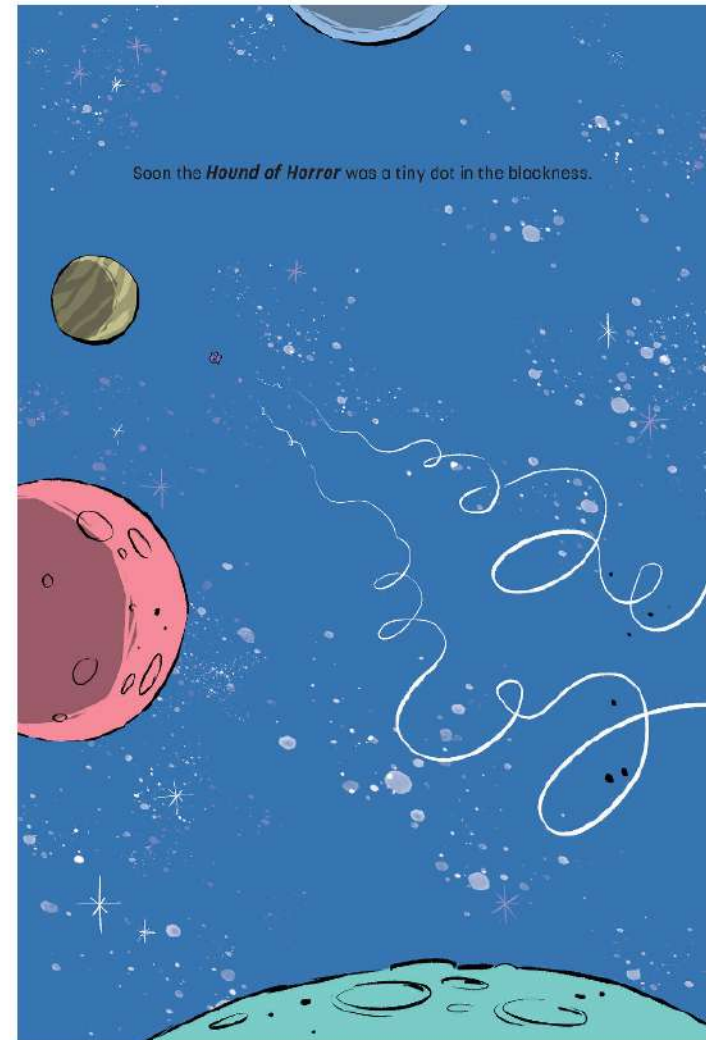
SHARE EDIT DELETE

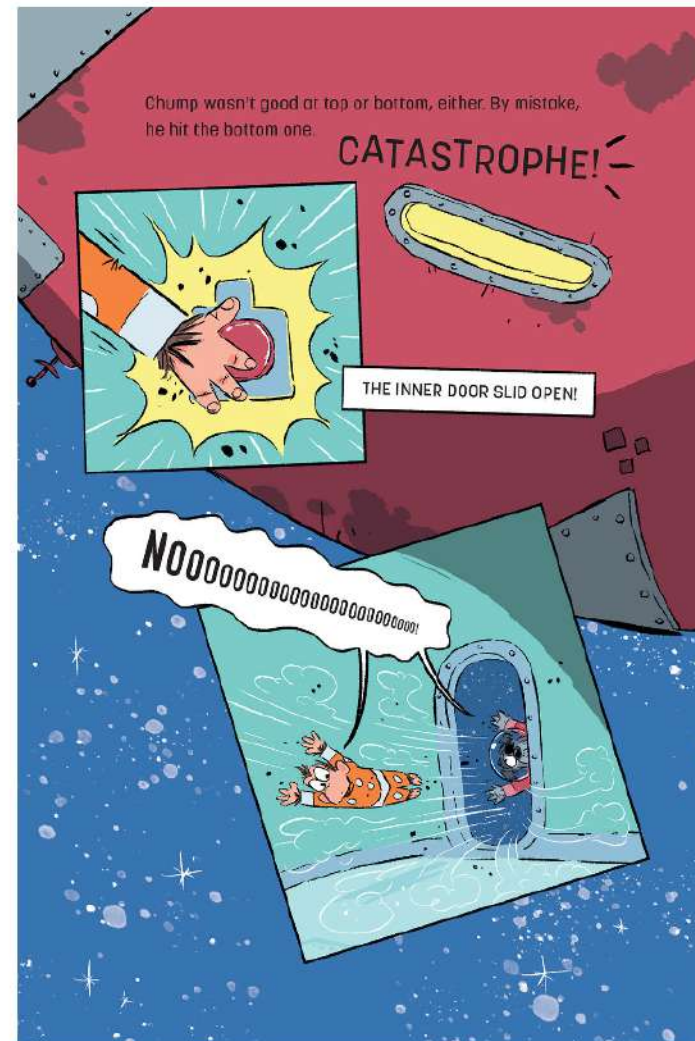


The pair turned round to see A SWARM OF FRUIT FLIES buzzing towards them!











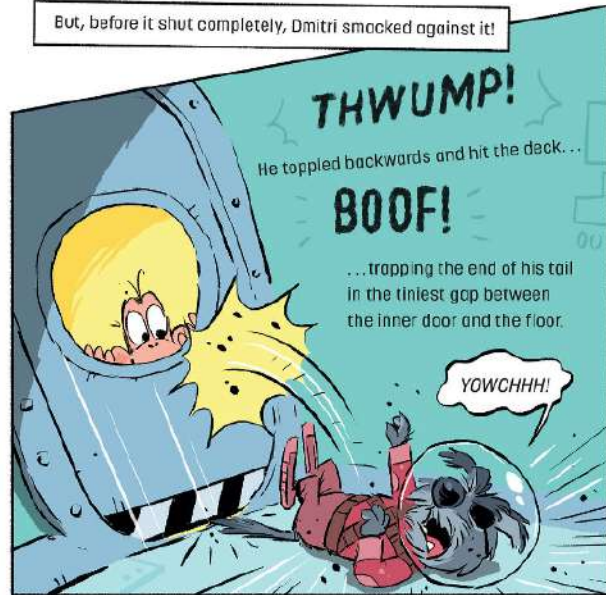
## EPISODE FOUR

A terrified Chump hit a button, and the inner door began to close.

SCHTU...!



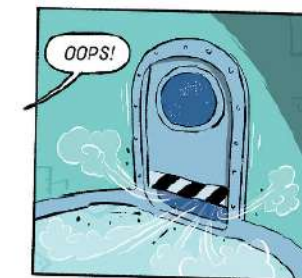
But, before it shut completely, Dmitri smacked against it!



73



Chump wasn't good at left and right and by mistake pressed the button on his right.  
This opened the outer door.



74

"HUH!" huffed Dmitri, whipping out a dirty hanky and pushing it into the chimp's hand.

"ATISHOO!" sneezed Chump, catching a huge globule of chimp snot in the hanky.

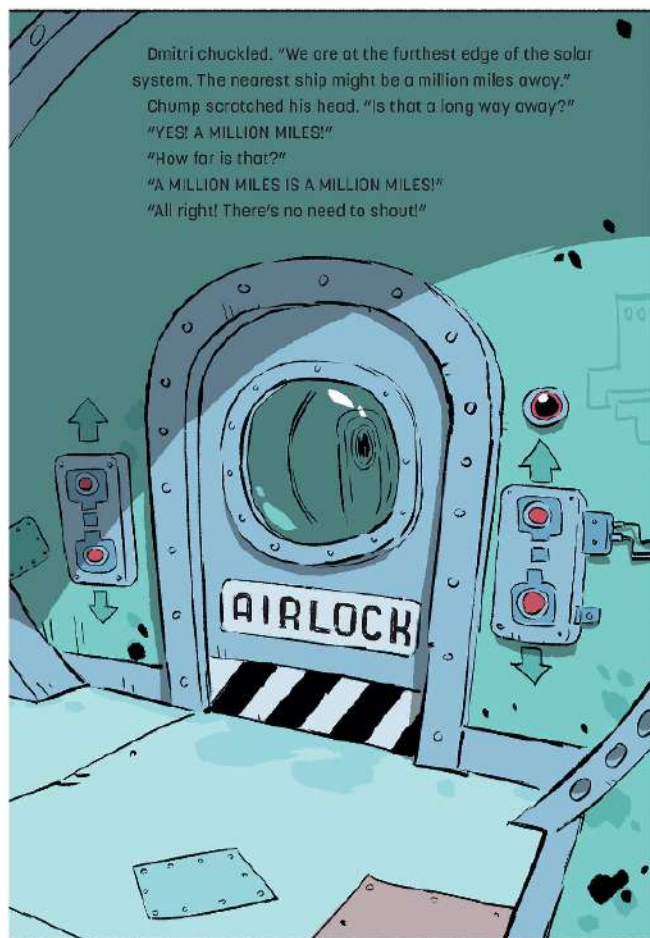
"LET ME DO IT!" thundered Dmitri, snatching it back. Instantly, he began wiping the glass, only making it worse by moving the snot around.



Chump began tiptoeing backwards until he was behind the inner door.









Dmitri ducked and the snot splattered all over a screen behind him.

**SPLUT!**

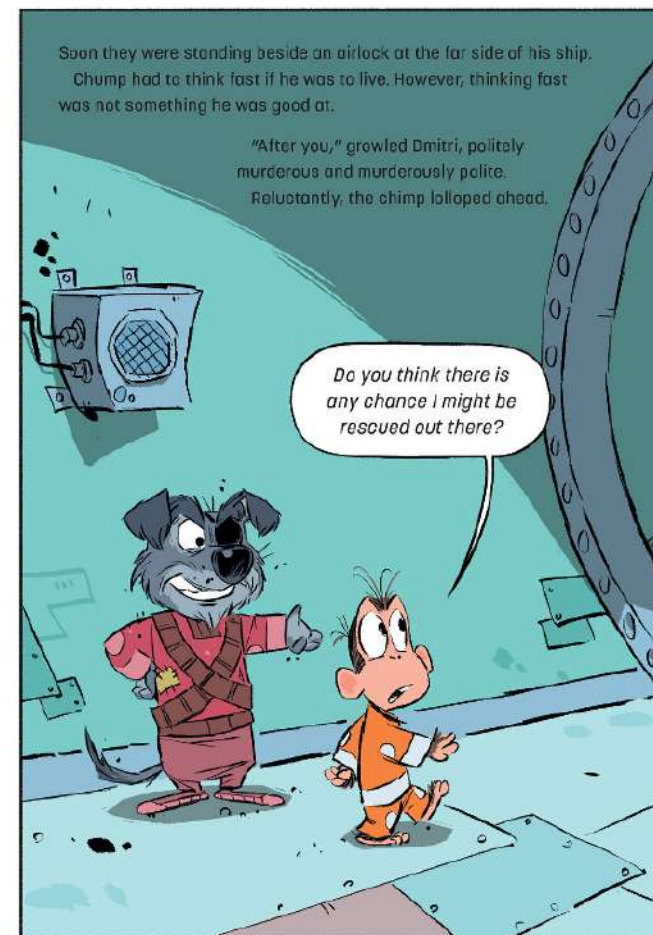
"OOPS!" said Chump.

Dmitri looked at the chimp with disgust. "Revolted! Now, where were we?"

"You were about to make me walk the plank!" replied Chump, before slapping his hairy forehead in frustration.

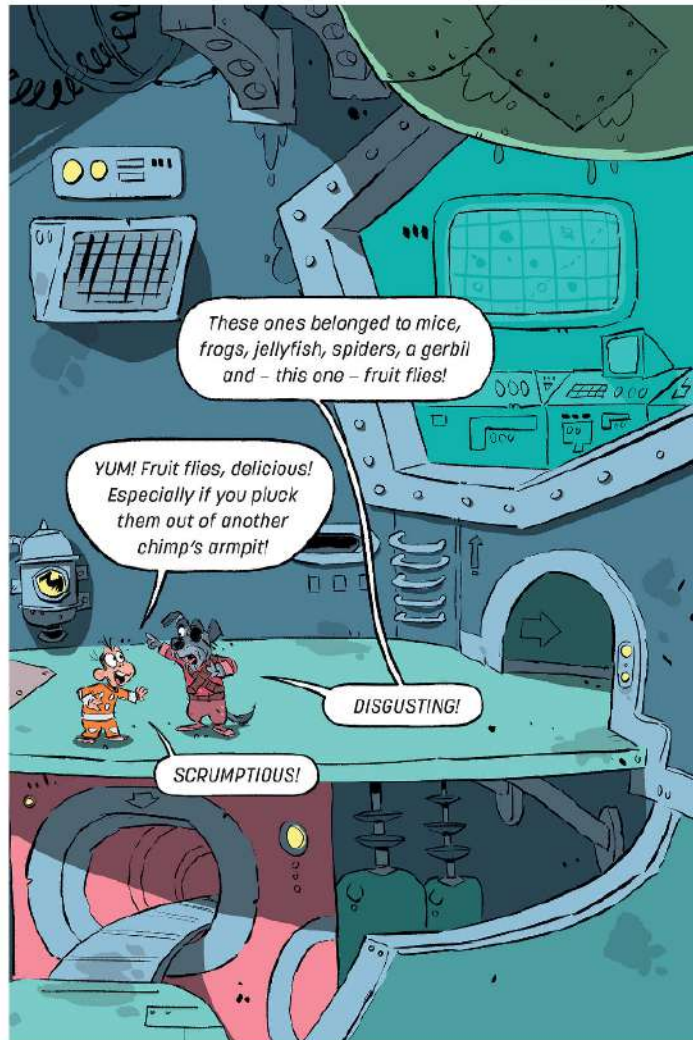


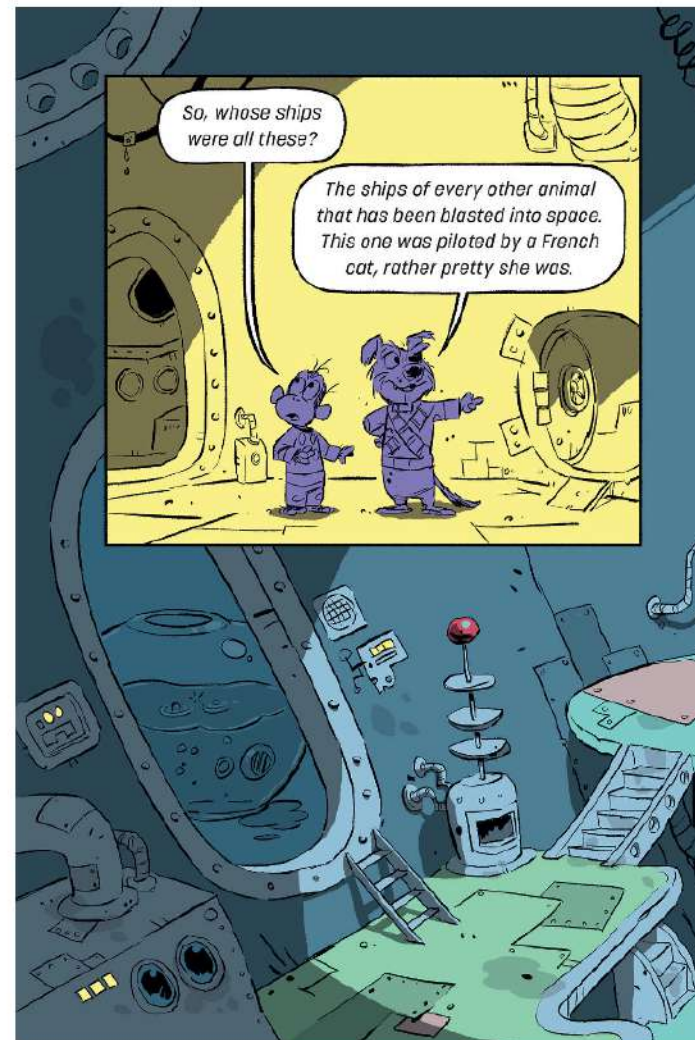
67



68











Screenshot saved

Tap to view your screenshot



SHARE

EDIT

DELETE





Screenshot saved

Tap to view your screenshot



SHARE

EDIT

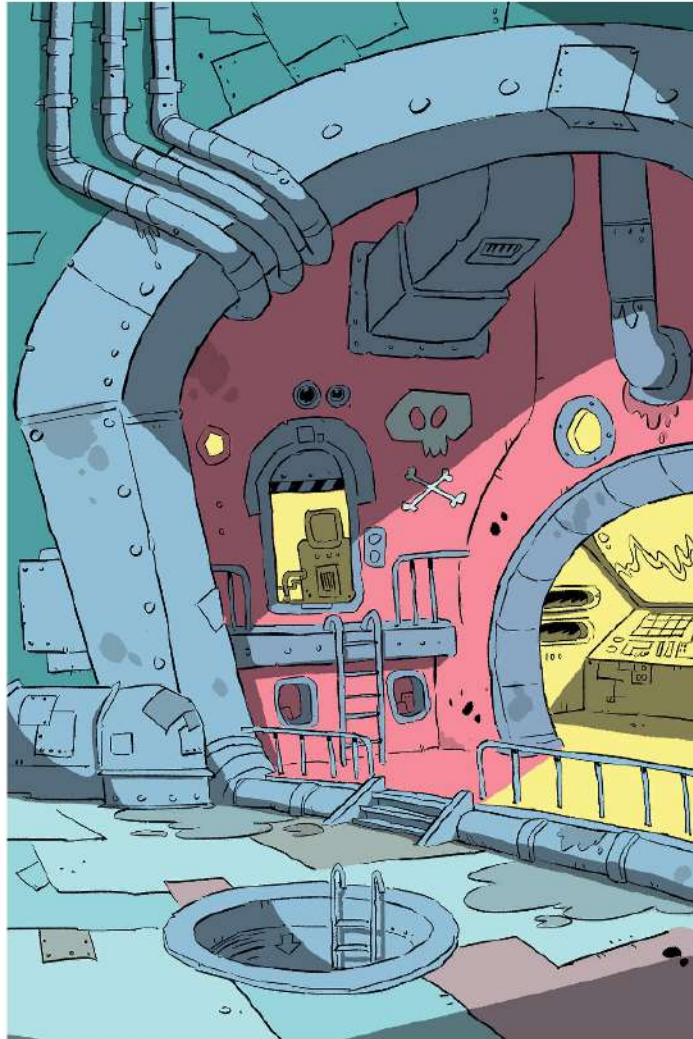
DELETE



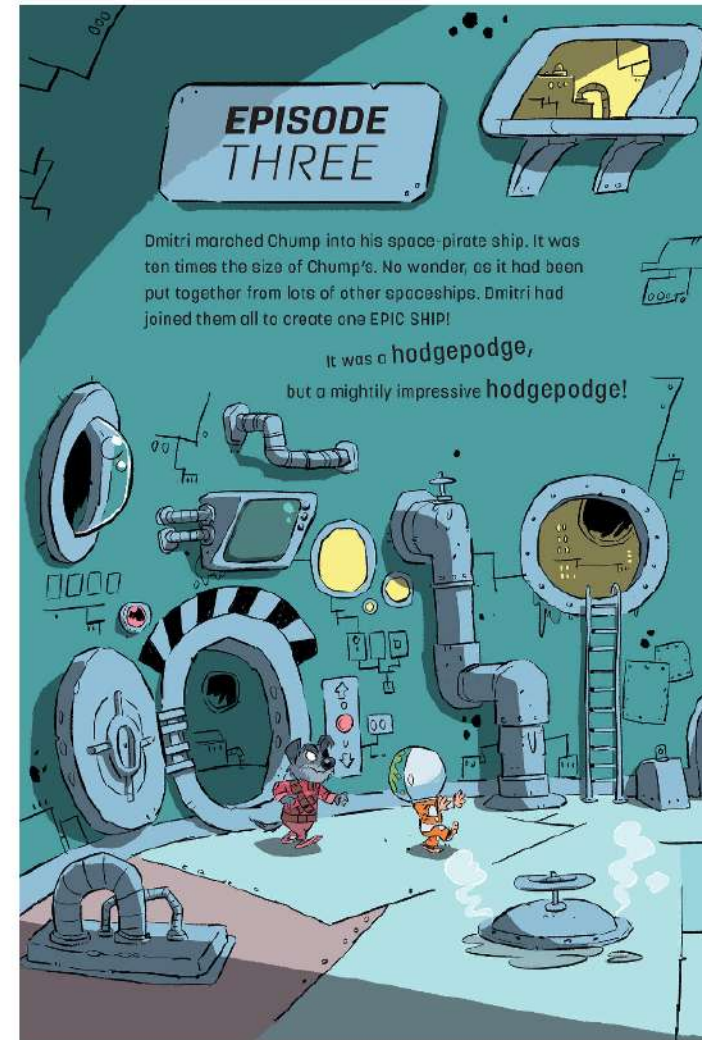
59



60











Screenshot saved  
Tap to view your screenshot

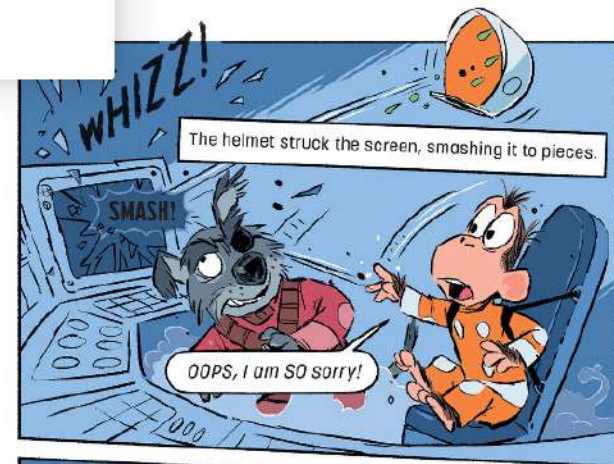
SHARE EDIT DELETE



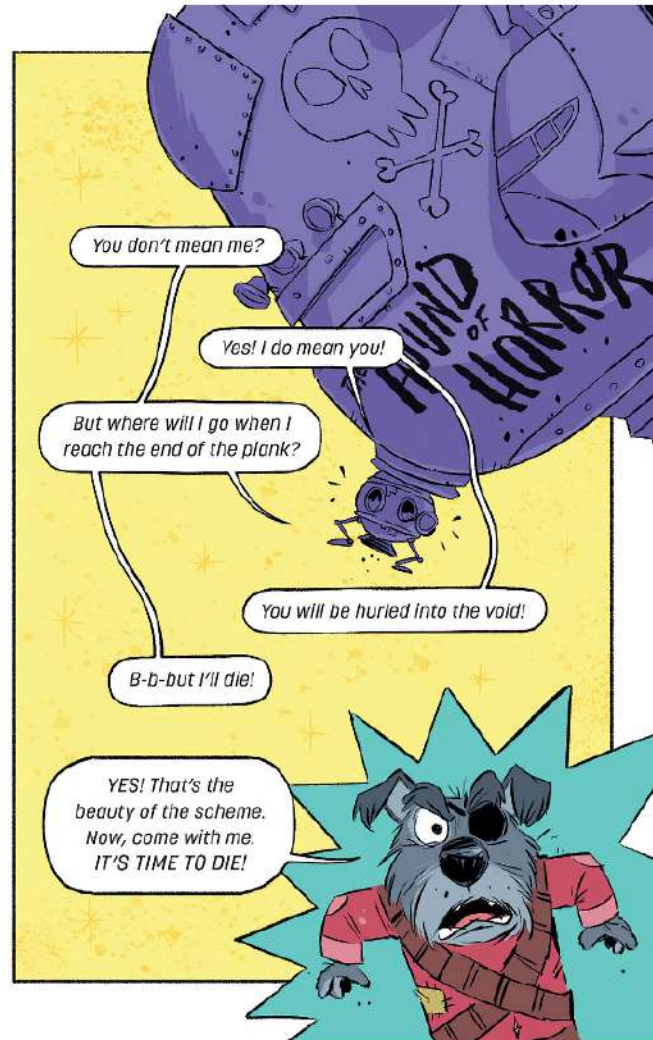
The chimp took off his still-snot-splattered helmet.



51

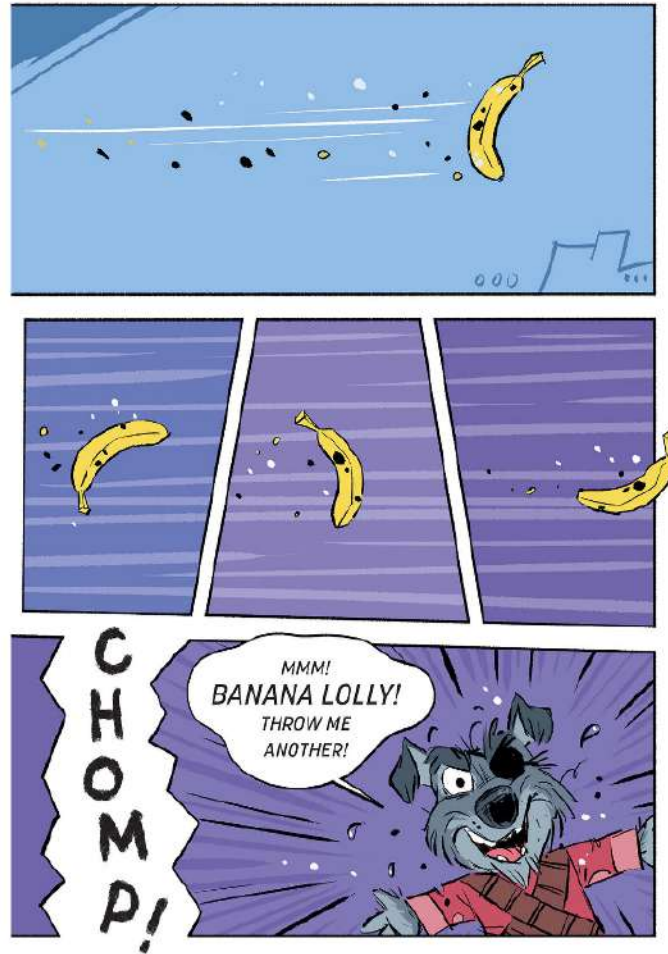


52

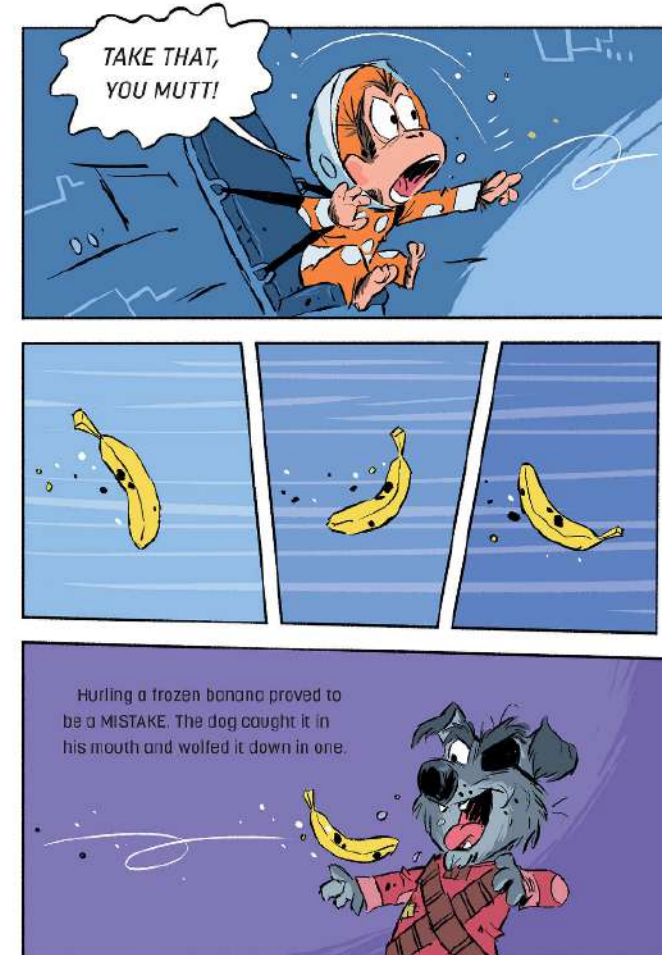










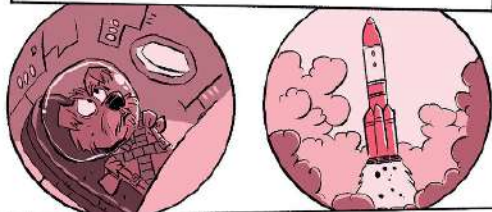


Dmitri was a stray who had been found living rough on the mean backstreets of Moscow. Years before Chump's mission, he was selected to make history as the first animal in space.

The Russian space programme chose a stray dog, as it would be more able to endure the cold and hunger up in space.



Dmitri was strapped into his spacecraft and blasted up into space. His mission was a success: he survived!



But little did HE know that there was no plan to bring him back to Earth. He was left alone in his craft, floating across the universe. He had **ZERO CHANCE OF SURVIVAL**.



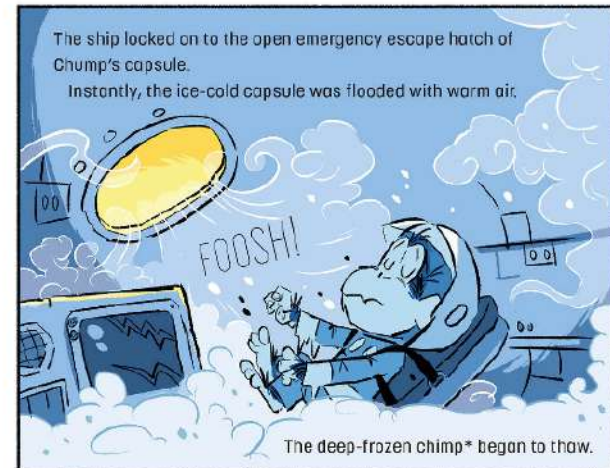
But the dog was dogged. Dmitri was determined to survive by becoming the first **DOG SPACE PIRATE!** That's why he was demanding Chump's bananas!



With that, he slid down into the capsule.







Now Chump's ice-encrusted eyes opened for the first time in half a century!



An upside-down dog's head sporting an eyepatch poked through the hatch. The dog barked in a Russian accent.

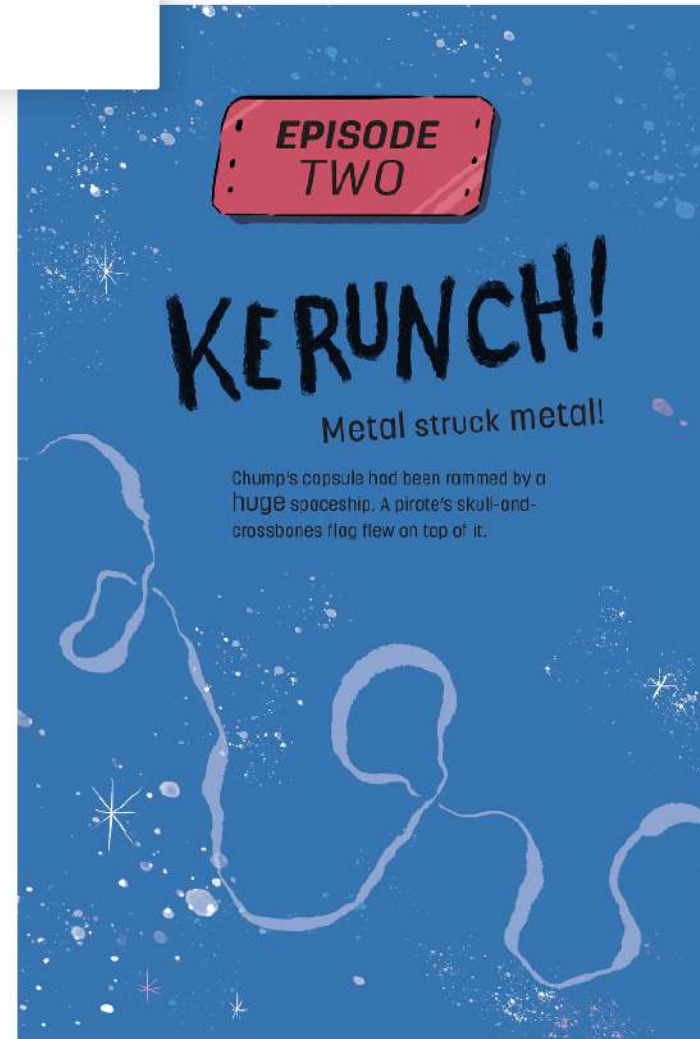


\*You will be glad to know you can't find deep-frozen chimps next to the deep-frozen peas in the supermarket.

Screenshot saved  
Tap to view your screenshot



SHARE EDIT DELETE

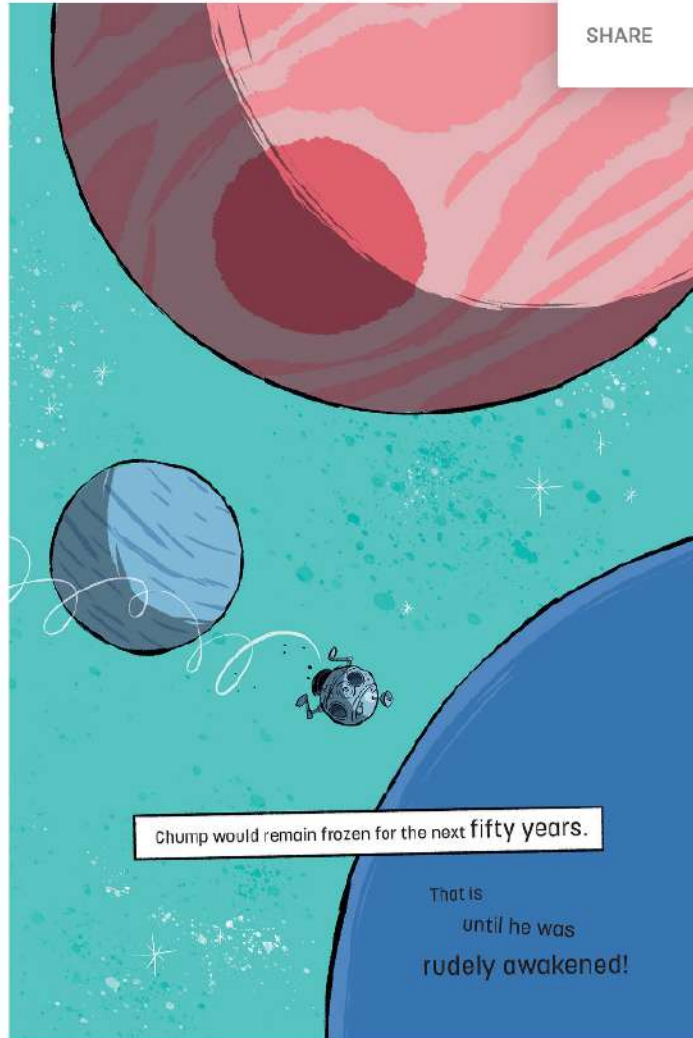




Screenshot saved  
Tap to view your screenshot



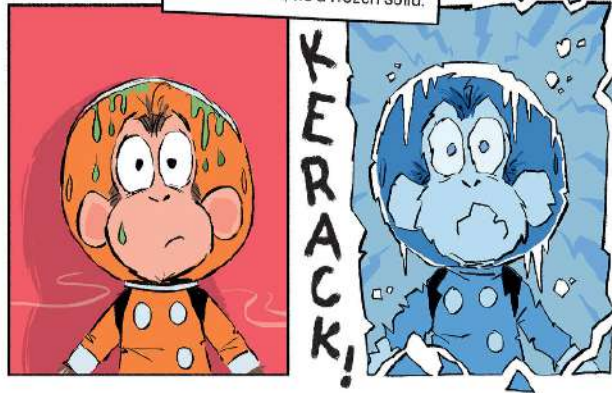
SHARE EDIT DELETE



Then Chump made a **TERRIBLE MISTAKE!**  
He slid open his helmet.



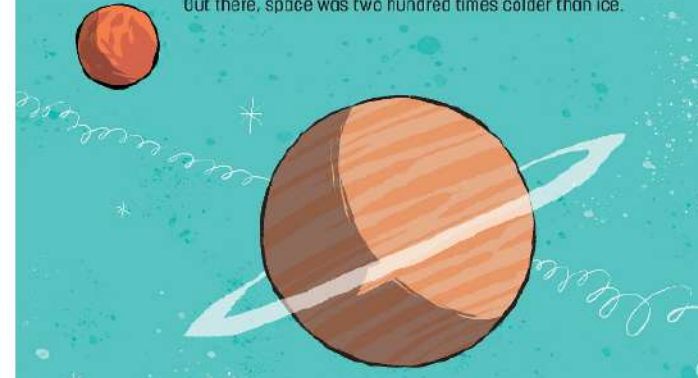
In an instant, he'd frozen solid.



The capsule spun through the solar system...  
past **Mars, Jupiter, Saturn** and **Uranus...**

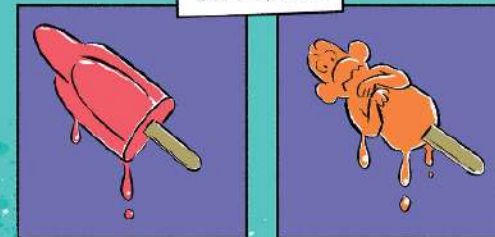
before nearly colliding with **Neptune.**

Out there, space was two hundred times colder than ice.

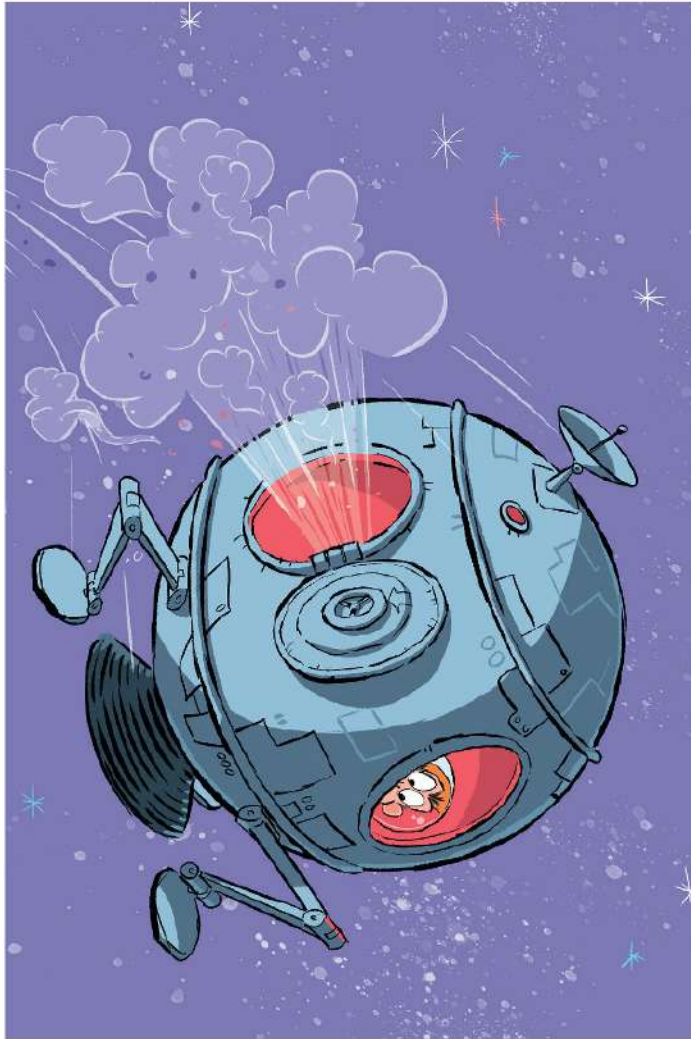


The chimpanzee was frozen completely solid.

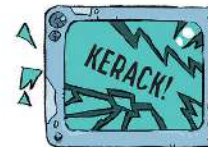
Like an ape lolly.







"CHUMP? CHUMP!" cried the chief scientist.  
Chump's screen froze over and cracked.



It fizzed to black.

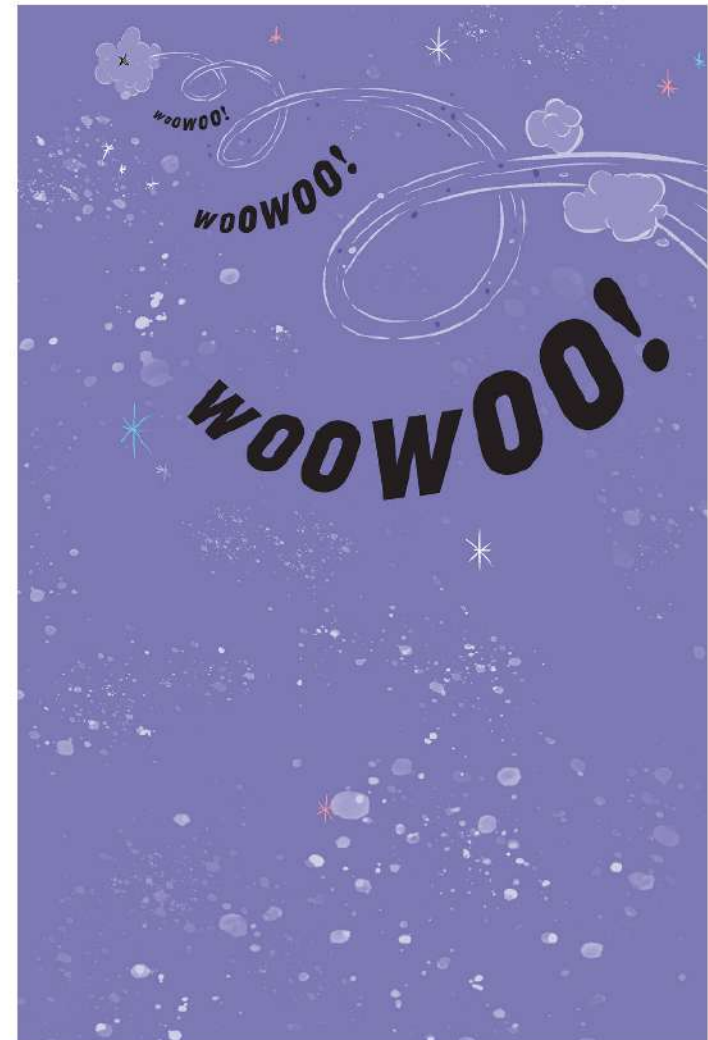
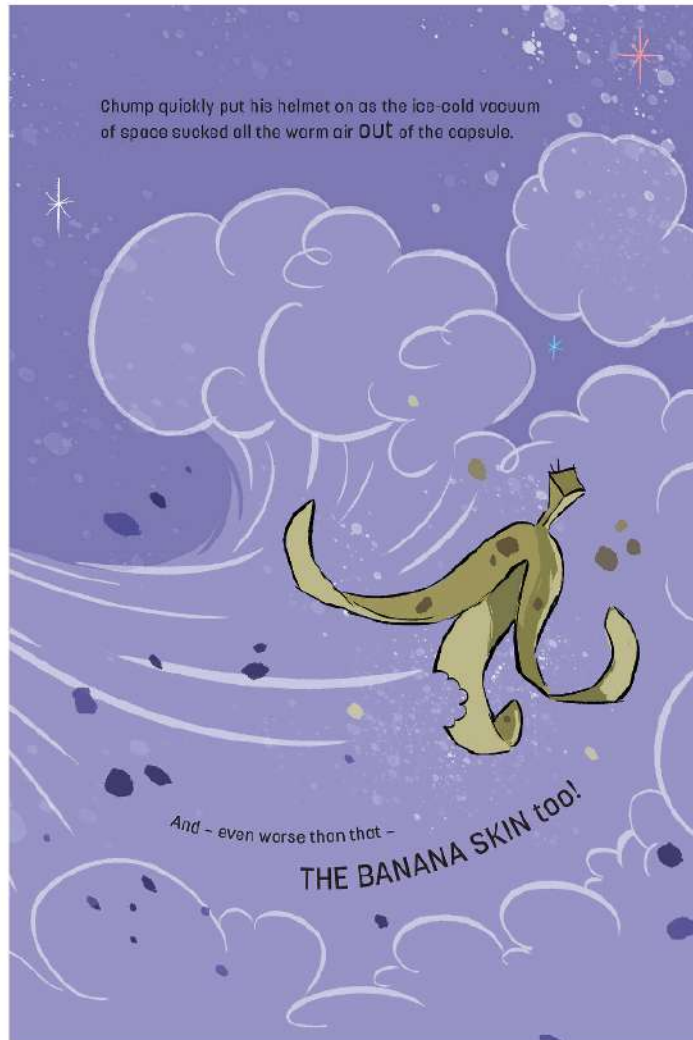


As he began to feel the cold, Chump sneezed.

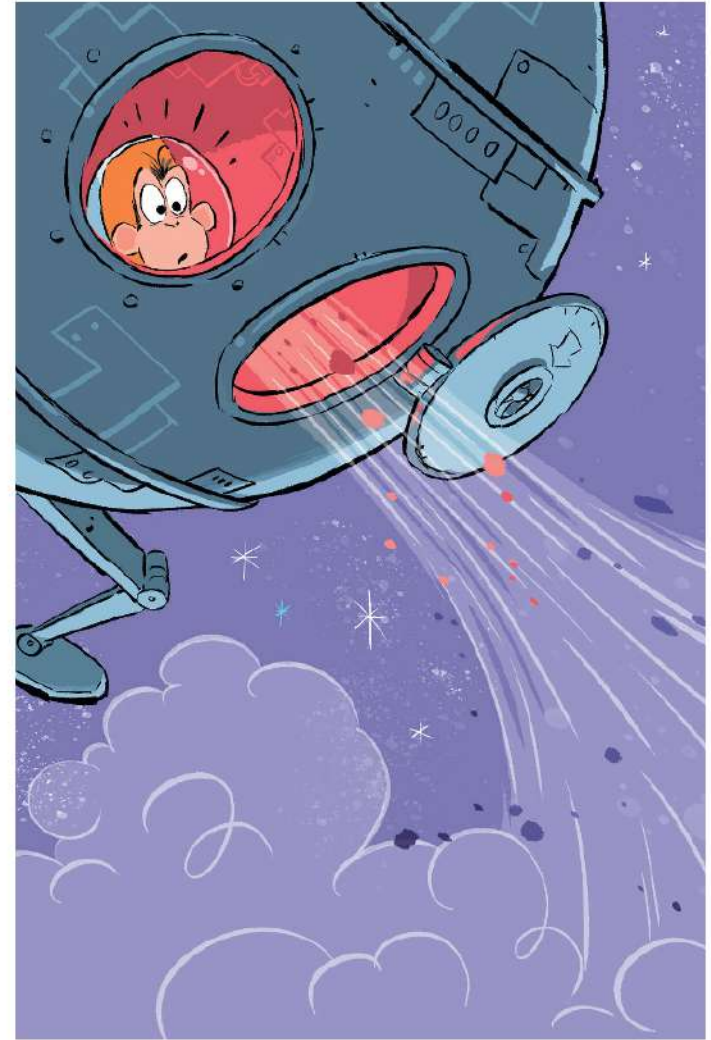
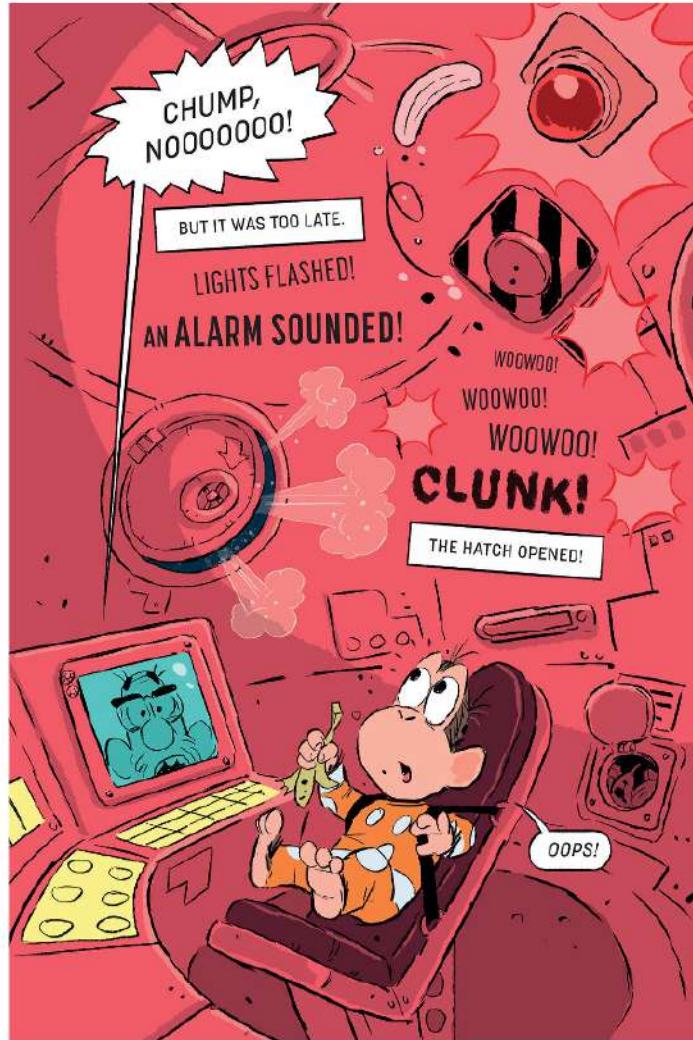


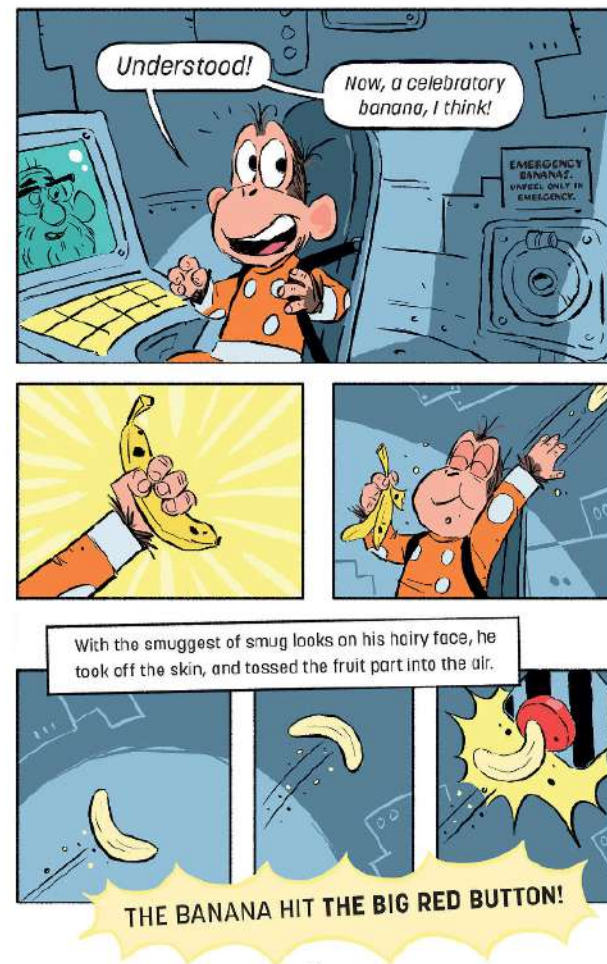
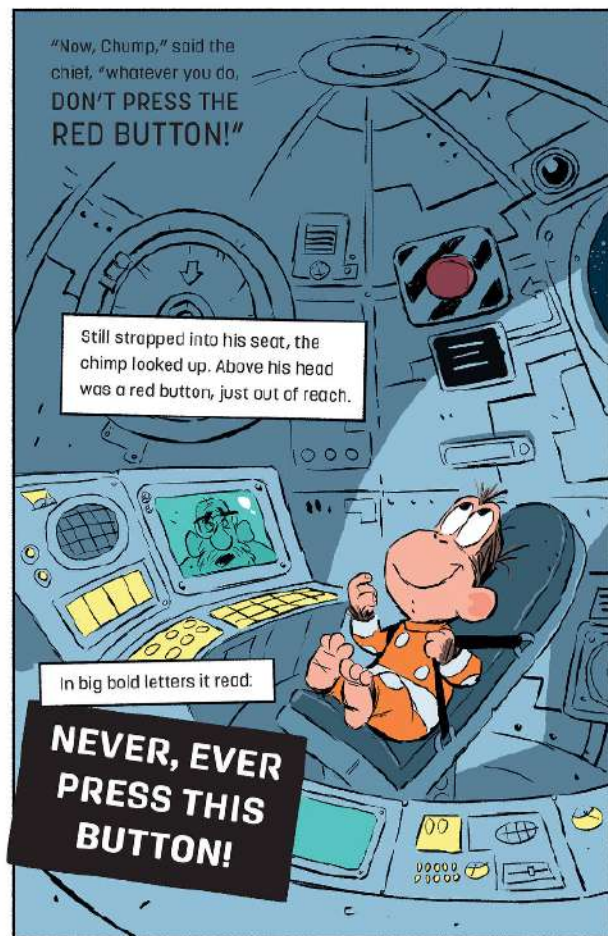
Snot splotted the inside of his helmet.  
The chimp tried to wipe the snot off from the outside.













**HISTORY WAS BEING MADE!**

The continents, the oceans and the polar icecaps drifted by, thousands of miles below.

Once he had spotted North America coming round again, Chump realised he had successfully orbited Earth.



On Chump's screen, all the NASA scientists down at Kennedy Space Center clapped and cheered.



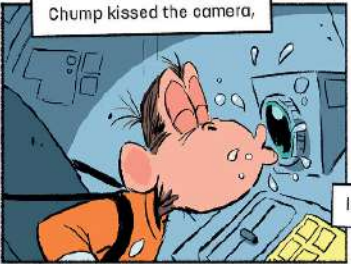
} "HOORAY!"

Chump cheered himself.

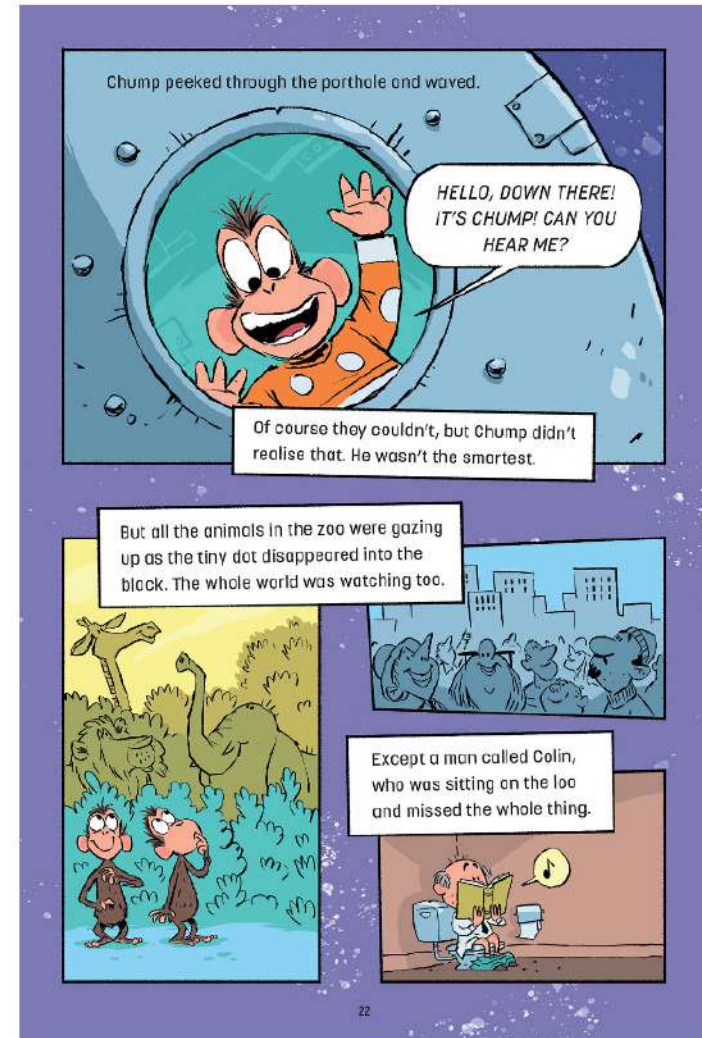
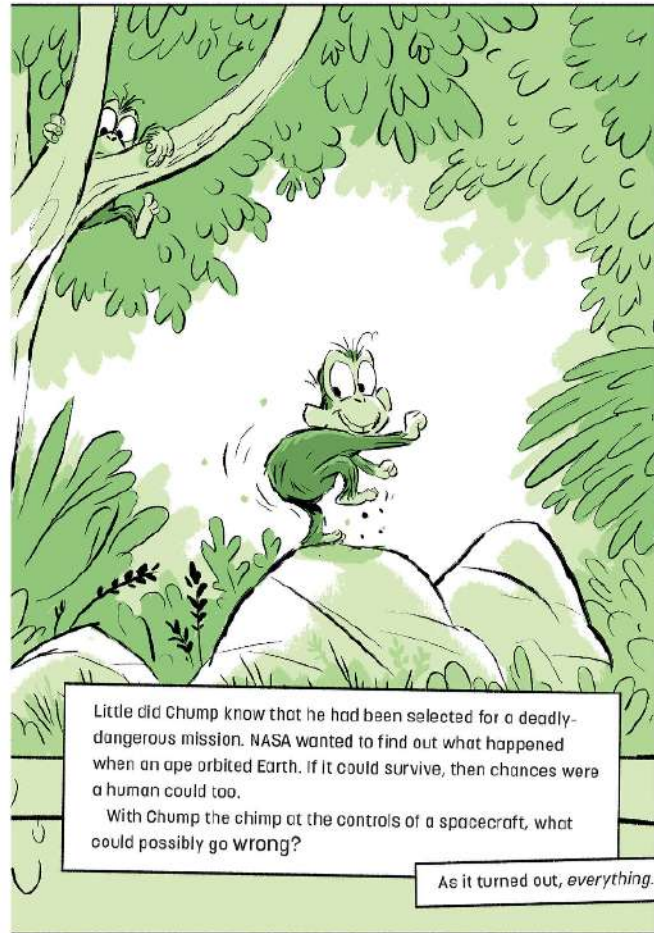


"Chump!" cried the chief scientist. "The mission is a success! Now sit tight as we bring you safely back to Earth!"

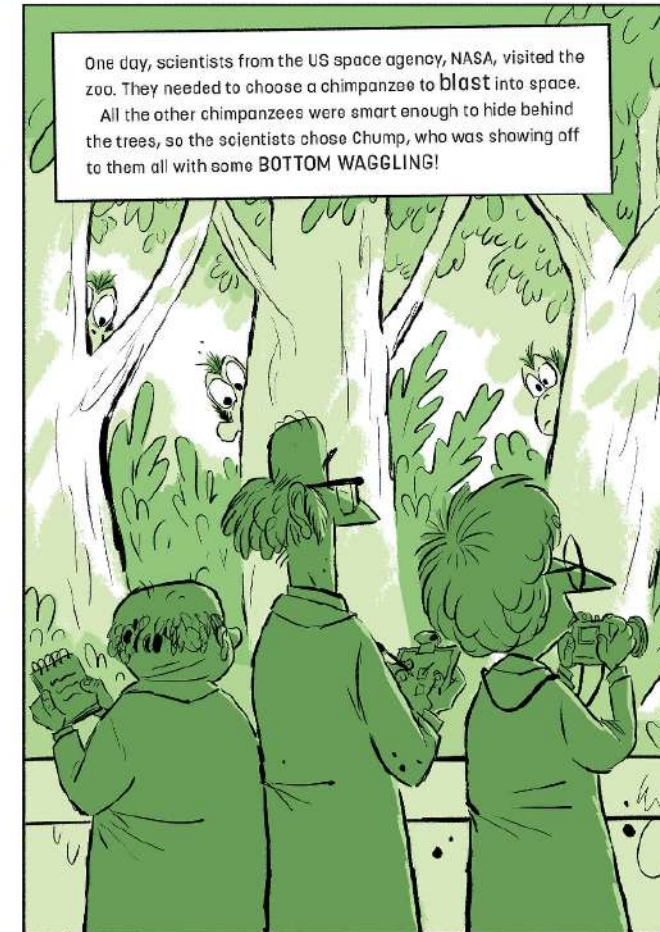
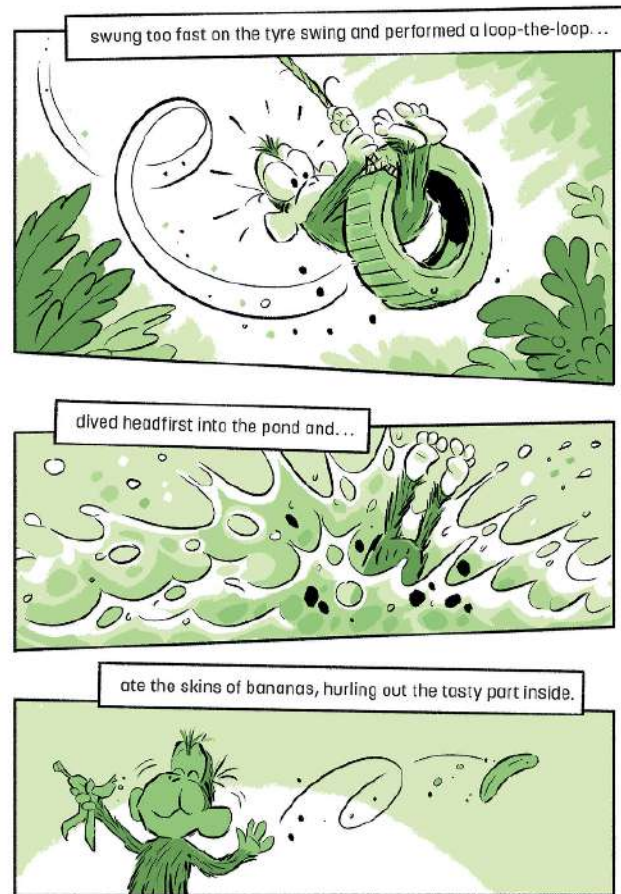
Chump kissed the camera.

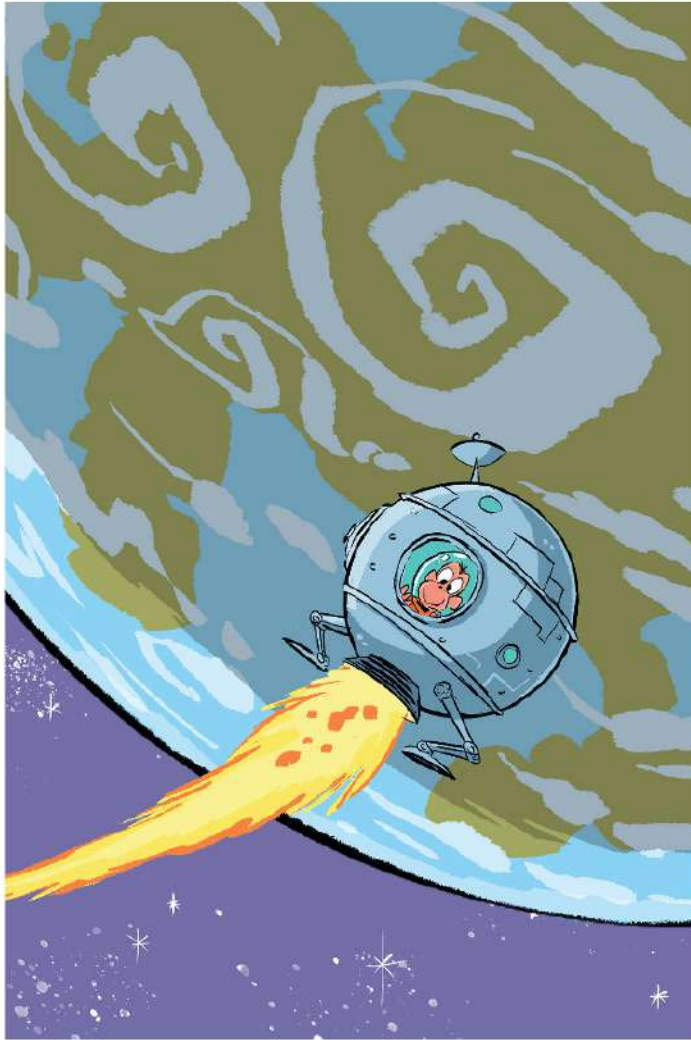


leaving it drenched in dribble.







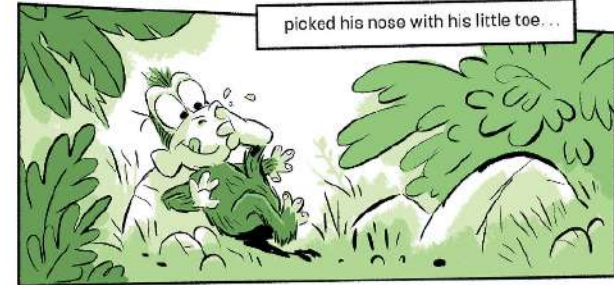


Somewhere, thousands of miles below, was Chump's home, Central Park Zoo. He had arrived there as an orphan. The baby didn't have a name, so the other chimps named him Chump. That's because he was always amusing everyone by being silly.

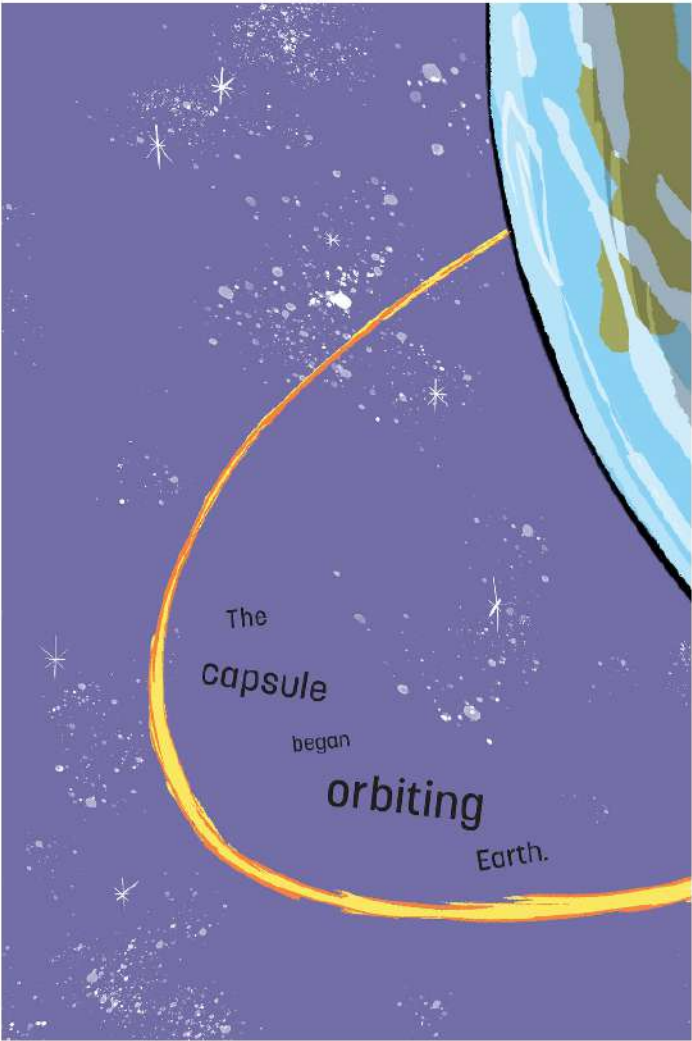
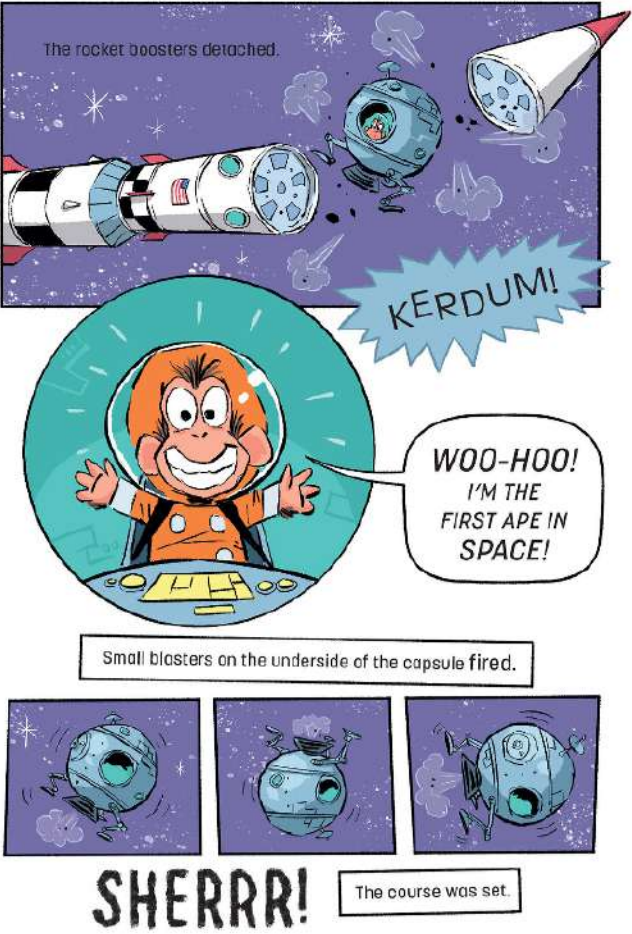
Chump made rude noises from BOTH ENDS...

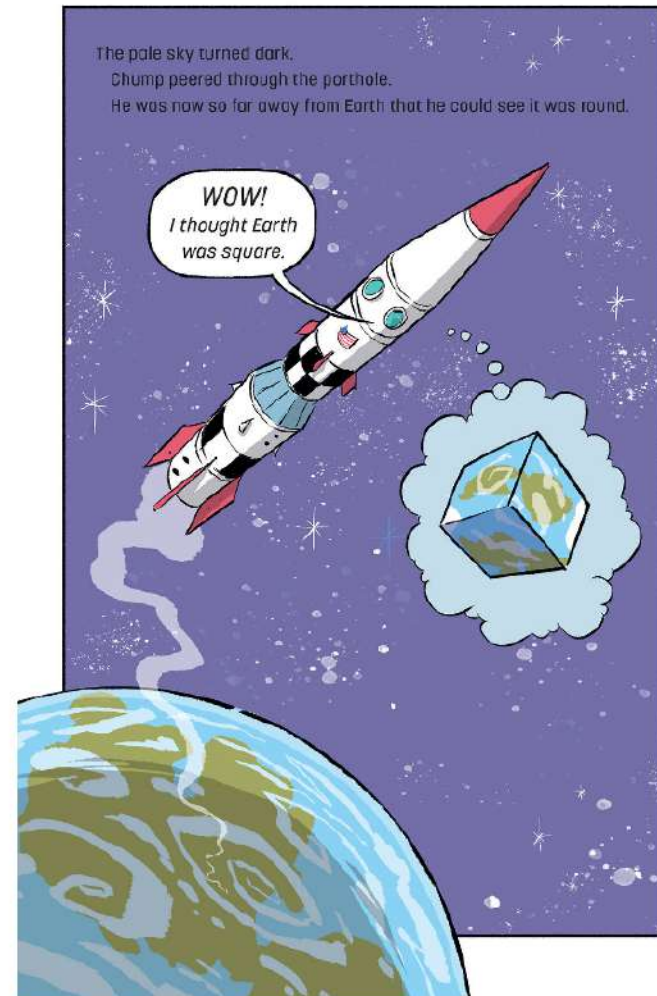


picked his nose with his little toe...

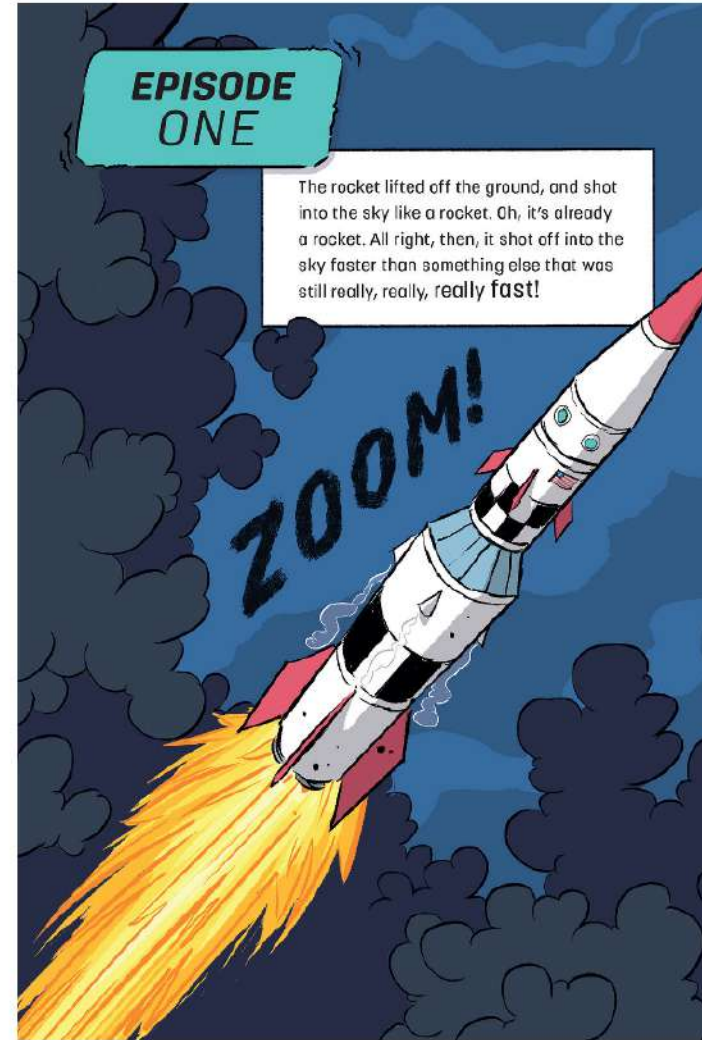
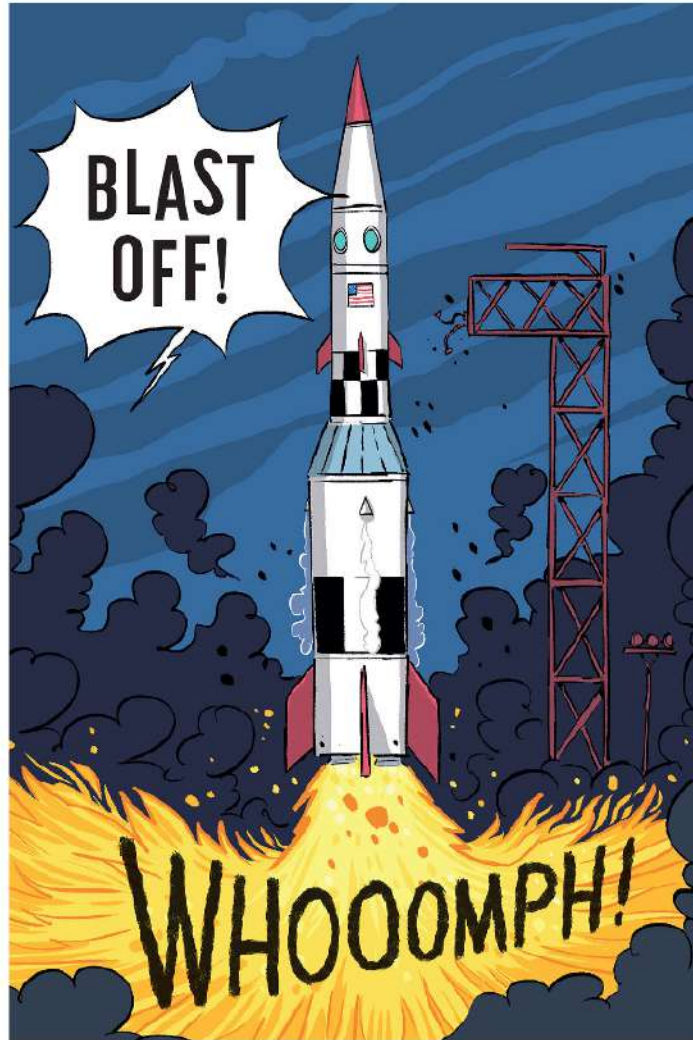








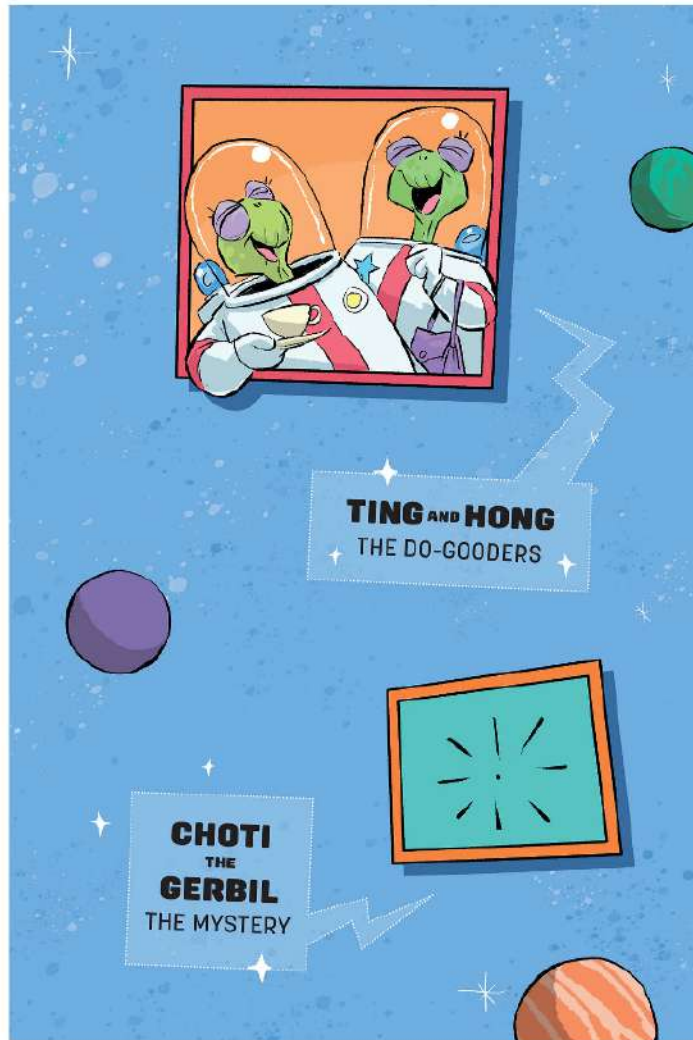




## EPISODE ONE

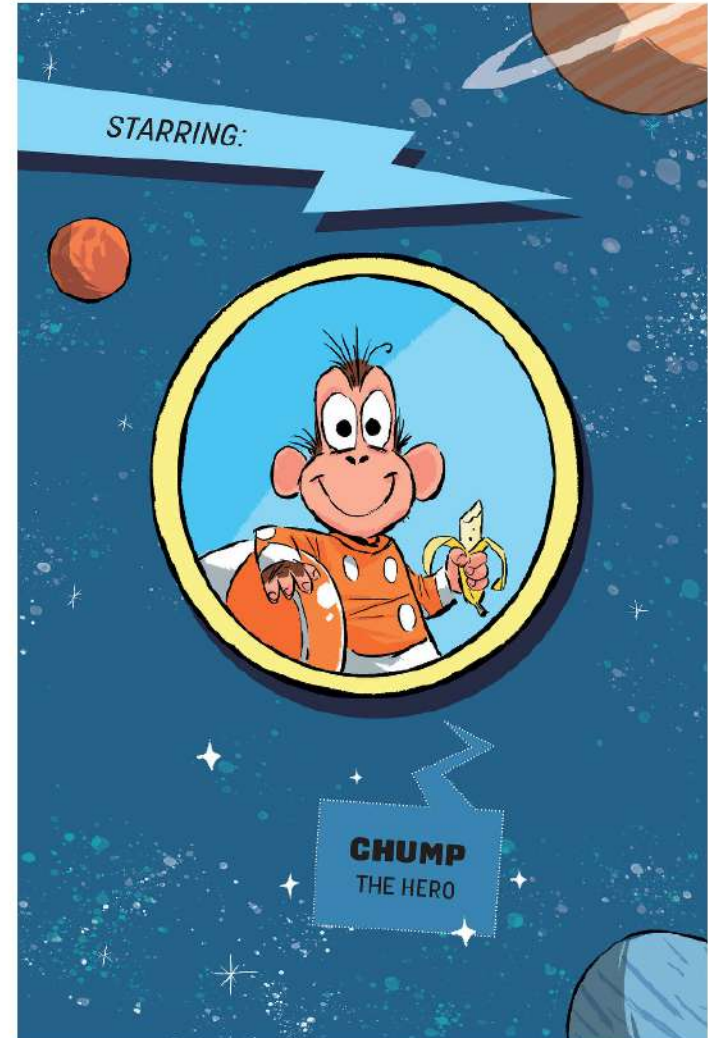
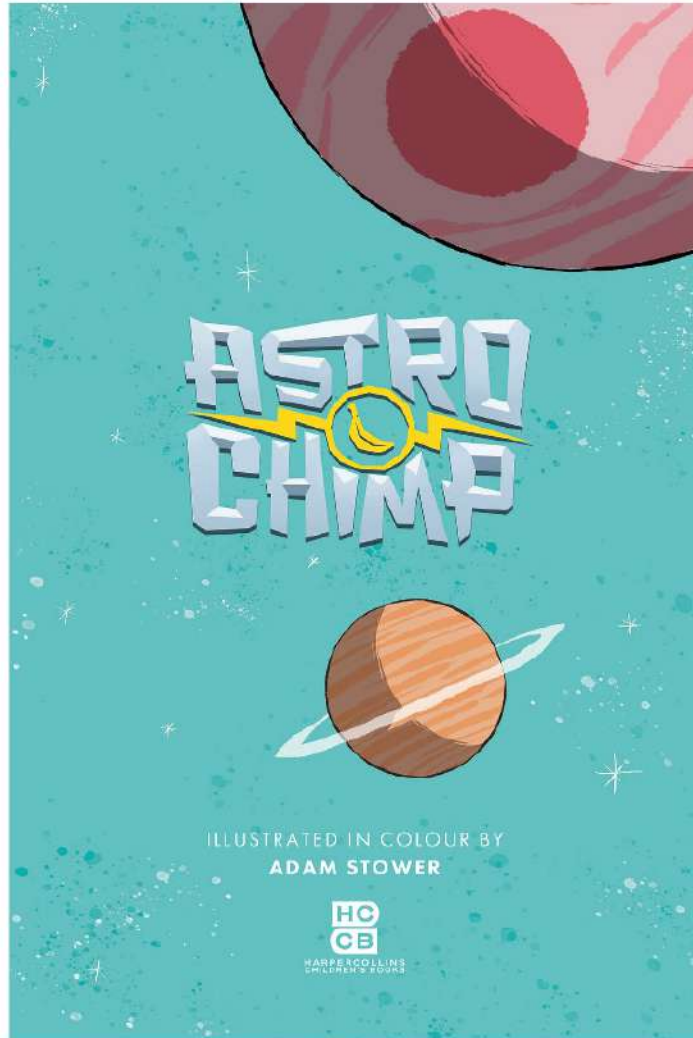
The rocket lifted off the ground, and shot into the sky like a rocket. Oh, it's already a rocket. All right, then, it shot off into the sky faster than something else that was still really, really, really fast!

ZOOM!











Screenshot saved  
Tap to view your screenshot



SHARE EDIT DELETE

*SINCE THE 1940s,  
HUMANS HAVE BLASTED  
ANIMALS INTO SPACE.  
MOST NEVER RETURNED.  
THIS IS THE STORY OF  
**WHAT HAPPENED  
NEXT.***

